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ARAB TIMES

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NO. 7302 SUNDAY, JULY 17, 1988 ZUL HAJ 3, 1408 AH 16 PAGES 150 FILLS

Expected results have not been achieved

Police checking on roads suspended

POLICE checking, particularly on roads, has been suspended, according to a senior Interior Ministry official.

The director-general of the general administration of the police and emergency communications, Brig. Abdul Hameed Al Hajji, said the checks were suspended as these failed to achieve the expected results and caused traffic jams including inconvenience to citizens especially during the summer season.

Patrol

However, he stressed, that this did not imply that police patrols would not inspect cars and people. They are within their rights to stop and question any suspected car or person at any place.

The official commented that when a police patrol asks a car driver to stop, the driver should stay in his car. Policemen have been instructed to approach the car driver and not to ask him to walk out of the car to the police

patrol vehicle. He added that policemen have no right to ask a person, who is not a suspect, where he is coming from or going to. His duties are limited to checking the car registration book and driving licence, noting any violations. But the police are within their rights to question a person near vital installations such as oil terminals etc.

Policemen are not entitled to ask any woman accompanying the driver as to her relationship, or if they are husband and wife. He can, however, ask to see her identity card. The police can ask questions if the couple are found in a compromising situation, if police receive complaints against the couple or if police suspect that the woman has been kidnapped or threatened.

Al Hajji pointed out that the police are losing patience with the recklessness of some drivers, especially youths who threaten lives of innocent pedestrians and other drivers including their own. Every effort is being made to

arrest such drivers and stop races among them at night.

The official was critical of parents who did not impress upon their children the importance of strictly adhering to the traffic code-of-conduct.

The brigadier said that citizens could call the telephone number 199 for any emergency. He disclosed that response would be immediate. The caller should, however, be clear in his answers relating to his house address and telephone number and other information sought, that may help police in rendering him assistance.

Capable

He added, the emergency patrols also play an active role in controlling traffic in the same manner as traffic patrols and added that traffic work constitutes about 70 per cent of the total work of the emergency police patrols.

Emergency policemen possess the same authority as traffic policemen with regard to traffic

violations, he said and added that the ministry rewards policemen who excel in their duties or catch criminals during their normal duties.

Efforts are being made to provide each emergency patrol vehicle with a computer capable of giving the patrol car instant information on any suspected vehicle instead of having to contact the control room as at present. However, this would take some time to achieve, he said.

The official explained that the emergency police department was established in 1956 and was called the information department. In 1959 it was renamed and has a separate building situated at the 6th Ring Road.

The administration is equipped with the latest equipments and has hot lines with all government establishments and ministries. Staff of the administration aim at being at the site of a crime in the shortest possible time, keeping the crime level at a minimum and protecting people and their property.



Sheikh Saad and Bush (right) in jovial mood during their talks in Washington. (Reuters wirephoto)

Premier in last minute talks with Bush

WASHINGTON, July 16. (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah yesterday held talks with two top Reagan administration officials on relations between the two countries.

Bush invited the Crown Prince to his residence in Washington. The unscheduled meeting lasted for an hour.

Later yesterday, the White House National Security Adviser, Colin Powell, visited Sheikh Saad at his hotel and also held talks for more than an hour.

Private

Earlier in the day Sheikh Saad met Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East, Richard Murphy.

Sheikh Saad will end his six-day visit to Washington today, and leaves for Europe for a private visit before returning to Kuwait.

During his visit Sheikh Saad held talks with President Reagan and other high ranking US officials. He also met the Senate and House Foreign Relations Committees.

He also addressed American newsmen at the National Press Club of Washington.

Sheikh Saad's talks in Washington mostly dealt with Kuwait's proposed purchase of 40 F-18 fighters, and Maverick and other missiles from the US.

The Senate, by voice vote earlier this week, barred the sale of Maverick surface-to-air missiles to Kuwait as part of the \$1.9 billion arms package.

Agreed

US and Kuwaiti officials have agreed the sale must be considered a package, and if the Maverick portion is not approved, the F-18 deal would probably be cancelled by Kuwait in favour of aircraft from another country.

Sheikh Saad said he had asked the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to reconsider the bar to the sale.

Reagan, after meeting with the Crown Prince on Tuesday, vowed to push the sale forward, saying Kuwait is essential to US policy in the volatile region.

The Israeli government, backed up by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee lobbying group, opposes the sale of Mavericks to Kuwait.

US and Kuwaiti officials said they are exploring ways of getting around the Congressional ban, in the event the Senate does not reconsider.

Death in a freezer

CLEVELAND, Ohio, July 16. (Agencies): An eight-year-old boy trapped in a freezer where he had gone for ice cream died yesterday after being revived for a time by doctors, a hospital spokesman said.

The child's father told doctors he had reported his son missing about noon on Thursday, when temperatures soared in the heat-wave gripping much of the country.

The father, Dale Krogg, said he found his son six hours later when he opened the chest freezer to get meat for dinner.

Joseph Krogg, of Sheffield Lake, Ohio, died yesterday afternoon. Dr Stephen Evans, emergency room director at St Joseph Hospital said.

He was brought to St Joseph on Thursday with a temperature of 70 degrees Fahrenheit (21 Centigrade). Frost had formed on his body and he had no pulse, Evans said.

Iran trying to disrupt haj using proxies

IRAN intends to use hired people from other countries to disrupt this month's annual Muslim pilgrimage in Makkah, a senior Saudi Arabian official has said.

Tehran has accused Riyadh of barring Iranian pilgrims. In June, Iran said it would boycott the haj and called on other Muslims to demonstrate in the holy places.

"Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini and his helpers intend to slip some hired elements among the pilgrims to carry out acts of sabotage," Al Seyassah newspaper quoted Pilgrimage Affairs and Endowments Minister Sheikh Abdul-Wahhab Abdul-Wasie as saying.

Nature

He said their plans included "noisy demonstrations, heretic chants and foolish practices carried out by (Iranian) Revolutionary Guards at last year's pilgrimage."

Saudi Arabia accused Iran of corrupting the religious nature of the haj last year by turning it into a political demonstration.

Iran said pilgrims had the right to demonstrate.

Sheikh Abdul-Wahhab

reiterated Saudi statements that Iranian pilgrims were welcomed as long as their numbers did not exceed the figure reached under a quota system introduced by Riyadh for this year's haj.

Saudi Arabia earlier this month warned pilgrims of severe punishment if they attempted to preach political ideas or import propaganda during the haj.

Riyadh's quota system allows countries to send one pilgrim for every 1,000 people, meaning Iran would be allowed to send up to 45,000 compared with the 150,000 sent last year.

Saudi Arabia cut diplomatic links with Iran in April, making it difficult, if not impossible, for Iranians to obtain entry visas for the kingdom.

Officials in Saudi Arabia said pilgrims arriving without visas would be turned back at the borders.

The director of the Saudi passport department, Maj. Gen. Fahed Mohammed Al Shareef, disclosed that till yesterday, 685,487 pilgrims had arrived in Saudi Arabia.

A total of 450,670 people arrived by air, 200,749 by land and 34,068 by sea.

No Egyptian riot police in Saudi Arabia: Prince Nayef

BAHRAIN, July 16. (Reuters): Saudi Arabia denied today that Egyptian para-military police had arrived to help prevent a repetition of last year's rioting during the Muslim pilgrimage this month.

The denial was made by Interior Minister Prince Nayef at a news conference in the Muslim holy city of Makkah reported by the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA).

Gulf-based Arab diplomats told Reuters on Tuesday that 1,000 hand-picked men had arrived in the kingdom to help police the annual pilgrimage (haj). Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Badr denied the report.

SPA quoted Prince Nayef as inviting correspondents to see for themselves that there were no Egyptian riot police in the kingdom.

"I am the interior minister and I have no knowledge of such forces. The Egyptian interior minister has no knowledge of such forces. How can (Reuters) confirm their presence," he asked in reply to a question.

Prince Nayef said Saudi Arabia relied on its own security forces and population to defend its security and the security of pilgrims.

Haj on July 23

BAHRAIN, July 16. (Agencies): Saudi Arabia has ruled that the Muslim holy month of haj, or pilgrimage, began on July 15. Haj will be on July 23 and the Eid Al Adha feast will begin on July 24.

A statement issued by the Royal Court and carried by the Saudi Press Agency said the superior judicial council had determined that Friday was the first day of the month of Zulhaj.

The Eid Al Adha feast falls on the 10th day of Zulhaj.

Floods kill 12

NEW DELHI, July 16. (AP): The long-awaited monsoon rains claimed 12 more lives today in floods throughout India, news agencies reported.

9 more bodies found

NICOSIA, July 16. (AP): Nine badly decomposed bodies from the Iran Air jetliner downed by a US missile over the southern Gulf were recovered in the past two days, Tehran Radio reported today.

The recoveries brought to 179 the number of bodies pulled from the Gulf, it said.

The radio report today said the bodies will be taken to the southern Iranian port of Bandar Abbas to attempt identification.

Plane skids off

FRANKFURT, July 16. (Reuters): A Portuguese airliner carrying 114 people skidded off a runway as it landed at Frankfurt airport today but no one was injured, airport officials said.

The right-hand landing gear of the TAP Boeing 727 broke as it touched down after a flight from Lisbon, an air traffic control official said. A TAP spokesman said no one was hurt.

Shamir is blocking peace: Mellor

CAIRO, July 16. (AP): There is no hope for progress toward Middle East peace so long as Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir remains at the helm, a British cabinet minister was quoted as saying in an interview published today.

The weekly newspaper Al-Bihar Al Yom said that David Mellor, Britain's Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, compared Israel under Shamir's leadership to South Africa, where "some people have rights and others have none."

Guarantee

Mellor's criticism in the interview focused on Shamir's refusal to relinquish any of the occupied Arab lands presently held by Israel.

The territories include the West Bank and Gaza, home to 1.5 million Palestinians and scene of a 7-month-old uprising. Mellor also took issue with Israel's tough handling of the uprising.

It was the second anti-Israel tirade by Mellor this year.

Arguing that occupation of territory is no guarantee of security, Mellor told the newspaper, "It is clear that so long as Mr Shamir remains in his post as prime minister, there is no hope for making progress (toward a peace settlement)."

Critical

"The Israelis at present are pursuing a policy similar to that of South Africa in regard to black people," Mellor said, likening Pretoria's policy of racial segregation to Israel's treatment of the Palestinians.

"Day after day Mr Shamir's government is becoming like that of South Africa because in both countries some people have rights and others have none."

Accusing Shamir of lack of vision, Mellor said: "I hope the Israelis will realise that great countries are led only by leaders having the talent of vision... What future can there be for the Israeli people in territories held



Mellor

by armed force on all sides? None at all."

During a visit to Israel and the occupied territories last January, Mellor made strongly critical remarks that enraged Israeli leaders.

After a visit to Gaza's Jabaliya refugee camp, Mellor said that "conditions here are, I think, an affront to civilised values."

Gulf war 'nearing an end'

BEIRUT, July 16. (KUNA): Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed was quoted here today as expressing hope that the eight-year-old Gulf war was nearing an end.

"The latest developments (in the Gulf region) must have an impact and the war must stop," Sheikh Sabah said in a statement published here in Lebanese weekly Al Nahar Al Arabi Wal Dawl.

He said Arab leaders he had met in a recent tour very much appreciated Kuwait's drive to

contain the explosive situation in the Gulf region.

Sheikh Sabah earlier this month visited Baghdad, Damascus and Amman where he conveyed messages from HH the Amir of Kuwait to Presidents Saddam Hussein, Hafez Al Assad and King Hussein.

He was further quoted as saying that Syria promised it would do whatever it can to halt the Iran-Iraq war after it has been established that neither belligerent can win a decisive victory on the battlefield.

Debate on Iranian Airbus downing

Security Council seeks middle ground

UNITED NATIONS, July 16. (Reuters): Members of the Security Council have stepped up the search for a position on the Iran Airbus tragedy that might give the Iranians some satisfaction without deeply offending the United States.

Further debate on the downing 13 days ago of Iran Air flight 655 with all 290 on board will continue on Monday.

One Western delegate said the challenge was to find wording acceptable to Washington, which has termed the downing an accident, while not driving the Iranians away empty-handed and weakening further UN influence in ending the Iran-Iraq war.

At the same time, he said, Iran must accept the fact that outright condemnation of the United States was impossible.

Iran, which is not a member of

the Security Council, "doesn't have a sponsor" to push its position, the delegate said.

Asked later by reporters to assess his nation's demand for condemnation of the United States, Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said: "We'll wait and see."

Washington, which has offered compensation to the victims, has automatic veto power over any council resolution.

Asked if the downing of the Iranian Airbus by the US cruiser Vincennes on July 3 was premeditated, Velayati said: "The evidence shows that."

Climbing

A transcript of radio calls released by Iran indicates the Airbus was climbing from 12,000 to 14,000 feet when it was shot down.

The Pentagon has said the captain of the Vincennes believed the

plane was a fighter, flying between 7,000 and 9,000 feet and descending over the Gulf when the ship fired.

In the council, a range of delegates praised the Iranians for taking their case to the United Nations — their first such initiative in three decades — and called for renewed international efforts to end the eight-year-old war.

Several delegates said the need now was to press for implementation of the unanimous council demand for a ceasefire adopted here a year ago on Wednesday.

So far, Iran has not accepted the UN ceasefire call.

West Germany said Iran's call for a Security Council session on the Airbus incident offered a renewed opportunity for the world body to help end the war.

"We have noted carefully that the Iranian side has appealed to

the Security Council, thus opening the way to responsible reaction instead of being carried away by an emotional public opinion," West Germany's Ambassador Hans-Joachim Vergau said.

The only Gulf state representative apart from Velayati to speak so far in the council debate, Mohammad Al Shaali of the UAE, put full responsibility for the incident on the United States because, he said, the naval commander did not make sure he was firing at a military target.

There had been many instances of "interference" by foreign warships in the Gulf with civilian airlines, said Al Shaali, who reported he lost relatives in the disaster.

He did not list the previous instances of naval "interference" but said US authorities had been notified.

INSIDE

International	2,3
Kuwait-Gulf	4
Events	5
Editorials	6
Features	7,8
Pictures	9
Business	10,11
Classifieds	12
Urdu	13,14
Sports	15,16

اقتصاد و مواصلات

- الكويت میں سڑکوں پر چیلنگ
- کاسلہ مصلیٰ
- فی الحال میڈیکل فیس عائد
- نیس کی جاری
- شیخ سعدی نے امریکہ کا دورہ
- مکمل کر لیا
- فی الحال وائے اسرائیل کی
- پیشکش مسترد کر دی
- کراچی میں خواتین کا بے پروا اجتماع
- افغانستان میں تبدیلی پر راجیوی تشویش

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with light to moderate north-westerly wind.
State of sea: slight to moderate
High water: 3.00 am, 1.00 pm
Low water: 8.00 am, 8.30 pm
Sunrise: 5.59 am
Sunset: 6.49 pm
Maximum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 46°C (115°F)
Ahmad: 40°C (104°F)
Faiyaka: 40°C (104°F)
Minimum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 26°C (79°F)
Ahmad: 22°C (72°F)
Faiyaka: 22°C (72°F)
Maximum temperature expected:
Kuwait: 46°C (115°F)
Ahmad: 40°C (104°F)
Faiyaka: 40°C (104°F)
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 15 per cent
Ahmad: 60 per cent
Faiyaka: 60 per cent
Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 15 per cent
Ahmad: 50 per cent
Faiyaka: 50 per cent

(Continued on Page 2)

ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo

Mr Ajay Kumar has won the Four Corners prize. He will receive KD 25, Game No. 65 continues for the Top Line and three Full House prizes.

INTERNATIONAL

Warsaw Pact leaders concerned on arms race

Call to stop military spending

WARSAW, July 16, (AP) — Leaders of the seven-nation Warsaw Pact expressed support today for an East-West moratorium on increases in military spending and called for new talks before the end of the year on reducing conventional arms.

The communist allies also signed a separate statement at the end of a two-day conference, expressing concern about the effects of the arms race on the environment.

The state-run news agency PAP said the documents contained "important new ideas (that) serve to consolidate positive European and world tendencies in questions of disarmament and making them irreversible."

Deputy Foreign Minister Henryk Jazdzewski was quoted by PAP as saying the statement on reducing conventional arms and troops has "great significance."

New talks
The countries of the Warsaw Pact spoke for starting new disarmament negotiations during 1988," he said.

Discussing the need for conventional force reductions in Europe, Jazdzewski said at a separate news briefing that the huge stockpiles of weapons and

massive troop developments on both sides "make it difficult for further improvement in the international climate."

They also hurt social and economic development of all states and complicate "the development of broad Pan-European cooperation," he said.

The summit's final communiqué said the Warsaw Pact countries support negotiations with members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation "on freezing and reducing military expenditures and on announcing, on principles of reciprocity, a moratorium on increasing (military spending) for one to two years."

Offensive

The summit talks were more open than in past Warsaw Pact meetings, said Jerzy Nowak, another foreign ministry official. "The style is definitely different in the sense of rejecting some ceremonial approaches and the repeating of long empty formulas which were used very often in these bodies before," he said.

Speaking at a dinner attended by the leaders last night, conference host Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski of Poland said a "peace offensive" was under way in the socialist countries.

Pact members have recently put forward "a number of valuable, original initiatives" in arms control, he said. "Their active character and importance were underlined today at this meeting."

Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu, in a dinner toast published by PAP, called for new talks on banning battlefield nuclear weapons from Europe.

Ceausescu called for new East-West talks on the subject of tactical nuclear weapons that remain outside the scope of the new US-Soviet treaty to scrap intermediate-range and shorter-range nuclear missiles.

The US-Soviet INF Treaty was a step toward disarmament but "the dangerous course of events has not yet been radically changed — toward detente, cooperation and peace," the Romanian leader said.

New thinking

He proposed that "talks on complete removal of any short-range nuclear weapons from the European continent should be started as soon as possible," along with planned talks this fall on reducing conventional forces.

Jaruzelski, whose toast was distributed to reporters, also pointed to proposals made by Gorbachev in a speech Monday

to the Polish Parliament as an example of "new, long-range thinking."

Gorbachev urged a renewed effort to break a deadlock with NATO over reducing conventional forces in Europe, suggesting a Pan-European conference and a withdrawal of some Warsaw Pact air forces in exchanges for the West's giving up plans to deploy 72 F-16 fighter-bombers in Italy.

The proposals, already had been rejected by the United States.

"Europe can and should shed its armament shackles" that limit economic, scientific and cultural development between East and West, Jaruzelski told his colleagues. But at the same time, he used Poland's future to the Soviet Union, saying his country's alliance with Moscow firms "the basis of secure, peaceful existence and successful development of Poland."

Other leaders taking part in the summit at the state council of ministers palace, where the treaty of Warsaw setting up the alliance was signed in 1955, were Erich Honecker of East Germany, Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria, Károlyi Grosz of Hungary and Milos Jakes of Czechoslovakia.



President Reagan (left) confers with UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the White House. (Reuters wirephoto)

NATO officers drown in rescue attempt

ROME, July 16, (AP) — Two military officers, one a Dane, the other British, drowned while attempting to rescue several children who were caught in rough surf off a beach south of Rome, authorities reported today.

A spokesman for the NATO defence college in Rome, where the two victims were enrolled in a course, identified the officers as Brig. Gen. Russell Maynard from southern England and Lieut. Col. Nils Erik Thoren of the Danish Army.

Home towns and ages for both men were not immediately available, said the spokesman, adding that the officers were about 48 years old.

The two officers and several colleagues and their families were having a barbecue on a beach at Fregene, a town about 20 kilometres from Rome when the children encountered difficulties with the water, said the spokesman on condition of anonymity.

Among the youngsters was a child of Maynard, the spokesman said. Italian lifeguards and members of the beach party pulled the children safely to shore. The two victims also were pulled out of the waters and given quick attention by a doctor, the spokesman said, but it was too late.

Funeral arrangements were pending, the spokesman said. The six-month-long course at the defence college runs through the end of July, he said.

Reforms
Although the administration sought to make a \$44-million emergency payment last year, Congress held up the move pending further reforms and Reagan supported its action in the meeting with the UN chief, White House officials said.

Perez de Cuellar said last month that the regular budget arrears, including funds owed by the United States, mean "the

Reagan seeks UN budget reforms

WASHINGTON, July 16, (Agencies) — President Reagan told United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar yesterday that the United States would withhold membership dues until the world body undertook further budget reforms, the White House said.

Reagan took the headline stand on US financial support during a meeting and working luncheon with Perez de Cuellar.

In a written statement issued later, spokesman Martin Fitzwater said: "The President said that the US recognises its obligations to the UN, but that further progress on reform was necessary to meet the concerns of Congress."

The United States is more than \$500 million in arrears in its UN membership dues, stemming from an administration decision three years ago to withhold obligated funds in order to force changes in UN management practices.

Counts
The United States has called for a proportional system of voting on budget matters so that voting power would be in line with financial support by UN member nations.

In the one-nation, one-vote 159-nation General Assembly, the United States' vote counts as much as that of countries that pay much less.

US officials also had objected to the assignment of Soviet civil servants to the United Nations on a short-term basis, arguing that such a system undermined the goal of an independent UN civil service.

In May, the Soviet Union announced that more of its civil servants would be allowed to work under permanent contracts in the UN civil service.

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Perez de Cuellar said last month that the regular budget arrears, including funds owed by the United States, mean "the

organisation will be completely out of money, with all reserves exhausted, by the end of October or early November ... unable to meet its commitments to member states and to staff."

Last month, Perez de Cuellar warned that UN will exhaust its funds by late October or early November.

As the richest UN member, the United States is assessed about one-quarter of the annual UN general budget, although the United States does not always agree to pay its full assessment. The general budget is more than \$800 million.

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Longing for romance

(Continued from Page 1)

Nearly 40 per cent said they experienced sexual harassment at work and 14 per cent said they had been raped. Almost four out of five women said they had been raped by someone they knew and another 32 per cent said they had been in situations where they feared they were going to be raped.

Justice
Virtually all the women thought the criminal justice system is too soft on sexual offenders. Nearly half of the women surveyed in the 18 to 34 age group said they lost their virginity in their teens, compared with 17 per cent of women over 55.

Despite women's attitudes about their own affairs, more than half think sex is overrated, and one third said they worry that something they or their partners did in the past puts them at risk of AIDS.

Most of these women believed AIDS testing should be mandatory.

The women displayed a double standard when it comes to politicians. More than two-thirds of the women who answered the survey said they would not vote for a politician if they knew he or she engaged in extramarital sex.

Molested
Another result of the survey of women with a median age of 40 found that one in four women had been sexually molested as a child.

The survey also found that 80 per cent believed that girls who kill or arrange for the killing of abusive fathers should be acquitted or given only probation or short jail sentences if convicted.

Arms flow to Afghan rebels trickles down

WASHINGTON, July 16, (KUNA) — Pakistan has halted the flow of almost all arms provided by the United States for the Afghan resistance, according to the Washington Post today.

Administration sources, according to the paper, cited a "significant reduction" in arms crossing the border from Pakistan into Afghanistan since mid-June and said little more than small arms and ammunition still reaches the resistance.

The supply of US-made Stinger anti-aircraft missiles and such heavy arms as mortars, has been virtually stopped, they said.

The Pakistani decision came after Soviet officials complained bitterly about Pakistani and US violations of the accords.

Black woman murdered in New York

KINGSTON, N.Y., July 16, (Reuters) — A black woman has been found murdered with racial epithets scratched on her body and far from the town where black teenager Tawana Brawley was found eight months ago with similar marks on her body.

Police have called in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to determine whether there is any connection between the death of Anna Kithcart, 19, and the puzzling Brawley case, which has dominated headlines in the US for eight months.

Kithcart's body was found on Tuesday in a wooded area of Kingston, 60 miles north of New York City. A homeless man was arrested when he was discovered sexually assaulting the body but district attorney Michael Kavanaugh refused to say whether he was suspected in the killing.

Brawley, who has refused to co-operate with police, claimed shortly after she was found that she had been abducted and raped by six white men, including one who wore a police-type badge. Her advisors, attorneys C. Vernon Mason and Alton Maddox, and the Reverend Al Sharpton, claim that local officials engaged in a cover-up.

Sharpton plans to lead a contingent to the Democratic convention in Atlanta next week, to protest against the handling of the case.

Because Brawley refuses to testify, New York state attorney general Robert Abrams has speculated that "there may not have been any crime committed here." No suspects have been named in the case.

Mandela rejects Pretoria's gesture on his birthday

JOHANNESBURG, July 16, (Reuters) — Jailed black nationalist Nelson Mandela and his wife Winnie have rejected the South African government's offer of a special prison visit to mark his 70th birthday next Monday.

The government said it would let Mandela's whole family join him two at a time for six hours instead of the 40-minute visit usually allowed at Cape Town's Pollsmoor prison.

But the family's lawyer said that neither Mandela nor his wife wanted privileges denied to other people jailed for opposing apartheid race laws.

Mandela, a leader of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), was jailed in 1962. He was sentenced to life imprisonment in June 1964 for conspiring to overthrow the state and blowing up power pylons.

President P.W. Botha offered him freedom in 1985 if he repudiated the violence used by the ANC under its exiled leaders in Lusaka. Mandela refused.

His latest refusal was confirmed by a government news release which said: "Today, in his own accord, Mr Mandela requested that the family visit be cancelled."

Bitterness
The move underlined the deepening bitterness surrounding the South African part of activities planned worldwide this weekend to demand freedom for Mandela, seen by many of the black majority as the symbol of resistance to white rule.

The authorities have banned all major birthday gatherings, including an open-air pop festival due to have been held on Sunday

near Johannesburg and an indoor concert in Durban.

Nine organisers of birthday activities have been arrested in Cape Town and others have gone underground. False "cancelled" stickers have been stuck to posters advertising pro-Mandela events.

Winnie Mandela will make an ordinary short visit to her husband later next week, lawyer Ismail Ayoh said in a statement.

"She will spend the birthday quietly at home alone as she has for the past 26 years."

"She has taken this decision as both she and Mr Mandela have never sought any special privileges for themselves," he said.

The family — Mandela has three children by his first wife and two by Winnie Mandela — will also stay away, Ayoh said.

Armenian region remains tense

MOSCOW, July 16, (AP) — The executive committee of the country's parliament will meet Monday, Tass reported, in a dispatch linking the session to the simmering dispute over the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan.

Armenians have been saying for weeks they thought the meeting of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet would be held Monday, but today's Tass dispatch from Stepanakert, the main city of the disputed region, was the first official confirmation of the date.

"The situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh auton-

omous region is becoming more tense with the approach of July 18, the day when a meeting of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviets of the USSR is to be held," the state news agency reported. It did not specify what would be discussed.

Armenians, who make up more than 75 per cent of the 160,000 residents of the region, have said the session is crucial to their decision whether to continue a general strike and street rallies.

In its dispatch from Stepanakert, Tass said a general strike

continued and food was in short supply.

Nagorno-Karabakh has been part of mostly Muslim Azerbaijan since 1923, but Armenians, who are mostly Christian, want it made part of their neighbouring republic. Last month, the Armenian parliament endorsed the annexation demand, but Azerbaijani lawmakers refused to give their consent.

The Nagorno-Karabakh legislature voted Tuesday to secede from Azerbaijan and join Armenia, but the Azerbaijani parliament declared the move illegal.

Jewish group claims attack on cruise ship

ATHENS, July 16, (Agencies) — A Jewish extremist group has claimed responsibility for Monday's terrorist massacre aboard a Greek cruise ship, the state-run Athens news agency said today.

The claim was made in a letter received at the Greek embassy in the Netherlands that purported to come from the Jewish Defence League, which advocates violence against the enemies of Israel, the agency said.

The letter said the attack on the City of Poros was intended to protest Greek backing for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), according to the agency.

The agency quoted the letter as saying: "We will continue our actions for as long as the Greek government continues to support the PLO."

The machinegun and grenade attack that killed nine people and injured 98 of 471 passengers aboard the cruise ship already has been claimed by two groups based in Beirut.

A previously unknown group calling itself the Organisation of the Martyrs of the Popular

Iranian oil pumping stations set ablaze

MANAMA, July 16, (Agencies) — Iraqi fighter bombers raided two oil pumping stations in south-west Iran today, setting them ablaze, a military spokesman in Baghdad said.

The spokesman said the bombers penetrated Iranian air defences and returned safely to base after destroying their targets.

He said the oil pumping stations, situated at Sadab, near Iran's southwest city of Dezful, supply Tehran with fuel.

In the Gulf, American warships and helicopters did not aid a neutral ship under attack yesterday in the volatile waterway because it would have required violating Iranian territorial waters, US military officials said.

Assault
Friday's Iranian attack on the Liberian-flagged, 85,989-tonne hulk carrier Sea Victory sparked a fire in the accommodation quarters but it was quickly extinguished and no casualties were reported, the ship's Greece-based managers said.

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The Sea Victory was 5 miles (8 km) from Farsi and within Iranian territorial waters during the 2 pm assault. Iran claims 12 miles (19 km) of territorial waters from its shores.

The ship's managers, European Navigation Inc., of Piraeus, Greece, confirmed that no US warships went to the aid of the vessel, which made its own way into international waters.

"The Iranians were scared off after the captain issued a radio Mayday call and spoke with nearby American warships," a spokesman for European navigation said.

"There was no need for American military intervention."

The captain of the ship, 50-year-old George Logares from the Island of Zakros, had been heard by radio monitors calling frantically for US warship assistance when the Iranians attacked yesterday. He was taking the Liberian-flagged tanker to Kuwait to lift a shipment of oil.

Students stone Israeli soldiers

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 16, (Agencies) — Students erected roadblocks and stoned soldiers, who responded with tear gas and rubber bullets during scattered anti-Israeli unrest today in the occupied West Bank, Palestinian sources said.

In Nablus, three Palestinians were shot and wounded during clashes with soldiers, the sources said.

They said the clashes erupted after soldiers, not of uniform and driving cars with local licence plates, entered the town's main square and fired shots in the air.

The army was investigating the report, an Army spokesman said.

In the old city of Nablus, troops opened fire on the protesters, wounding three, a local Arab reporter said.

Officials at Nablus' St Luke Hospital identified the wounded as Mohammed Abdallah, 21, who suffered a wound in his abdomen, and Mohammed Hamir, 19, who was wounded in his left leg.

Wound
Doctors at Al Itihad Hospital said they treated 21-year-old Mahmoud Al Kasar for a bullet wound in his right leg.

The Army command said an Israeli patrol saw four masked Arabs who raised Palestinian flags and threw stones. It said the soldiers were forced to respond with fire, wounding three.

Demonstrations occurred in 15 UN-run refugee camps and villages surrounding Ramallah.

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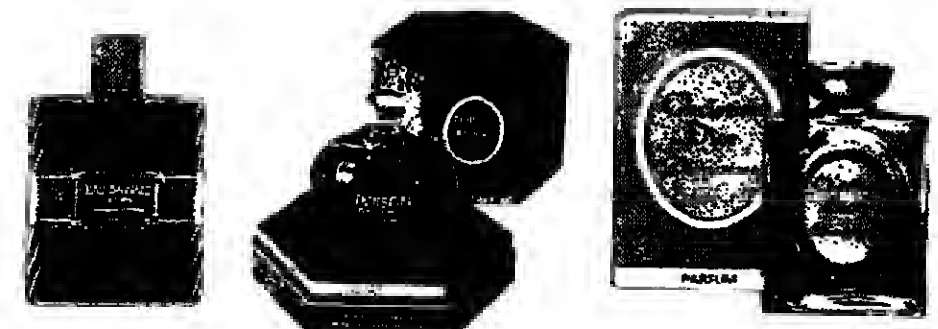
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WEEKEND SPREE 7.000



Rajiv fears militants may rule Afghanistan

MADRID, July 16, (Reuters): Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said today his country's major concern over Afghanistan was that a fundamentalist Islamic government might come to power.

"Our major worry in Afghanistan is an attempt to put in a fundamentalist government," Rajiv told a news conference during a three-day visit to Spain.

"We have no objections to a strong religious attitude but we would like to keep religion out of politics especially in our region, we feel that otherwise it can have repercussions for all countries in the region."

Under a UN-mediated accord, Soviet troops began withdrawing from Afghanistan in May after eight years backing the communist government's war against Muslim rebels.

The form which the Afghan government will take after the Soviet troops are gone has not been agreed, with rebels of more or less fundamentalist leanings divided among themselves.

Rajiv said India had one of the largest Muslim populations in the world, adding: "If a fundamentalist government would have a very negative effect on us and other countries around us."

Optimism

But he added: "We're confident that there is no danger of such a government coming in, at least in the near future."

"The strength of the fundamentalists has been highly over-rated in certain sections of the media," Rajiv said.

"This has ... been confirmed by the fact they have had to put up a government-in-exile rather than what they planned, which was to capture one of the towns and then put up a government in one of the captured towns," Rajiv said.



Rajiv and his host Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzalez laugh as they settle down to hold their first bilateral meeting. (Reuters wirephoto)

US firm accused of delaying tactics

Union Carbide chief missing

BHOPAL, July 16, (Reuters): The ex-chairman of Union Carbide, facing prosecution over the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster, is untraceable and cannot be summoned to court, an Indian government prosecutor said today.

Prosecutor U.S. Prasad told a Bhopal court that Interpol had failed to find Warren Anderson, chairman of the US based multinational at the time of the world's worst industrial accident, and that his present address was not readily available.

He accused Union Carbide of deliberately suppressing the address and of using delaying tactics.

Bhopal chief magistrate Kanhaiyalal Sisodia ordered the Union Carbide accountant who stood bail for Anderson to produce him at the next hearing of the case on Sept 24.

Anderson is one of nine people

facing criminal charges of causing deaths and injuries through negligence. He and others, all Indians, could in theory face the death penalty if convicted.

Nearly 3,000 people were killed and more than 200,000 injured when poisonous gas leaked out of Union Carbide's Bhopal pesticides plant on Dec 3, 1984.

Anderson was arrested in Bhopal four days after the disaster and was freed on bail of 25,000 rupees (\$1,800).

The Union Carbide Corporation and its Hong Kong subsidiary are also facing criminal charges. But the two companies and Anderson, who has since retired from his post, were unrepresented in court.

Union Carbide is also facing a separate compensation suit in which the Indian government has demanded \$3.3 billion on behalf of the victims.

The compensation case is a continuing focus of attention in this central Indian city of nearly one million people and angry demonstrations are held outside the court whenever hearings take place.

But today's criminal case went almost unnoticed, with only lawyers and journalists attending the hearing.

The court granted Prasad's plea that fresh summonses to the corporation and its Hong Kong subsidiary be served through their respective chairmen.

Prasad told reporters outside the court that the magistrate's court proceedings would end as soon as Anderson made his appearance. The case would then go to a sessions court for a full-fledged trial.

"Our responsibility at the moment is only to prove a prima facie case which is well established," Prasad said.

Soviet soldiers fear punishment at home

Deserters reject amnesty

NEW YORK, July 16, (AP): Six Soviets who served in the Red Army in Afghanistan declared yesterday they would refuse an offer to return to their homeland, saying they feared retribution from Soviet authorities.

But a man who jumped to his feet during their news conference and identified himself as a Soviet diplomat said the men would face no harm if they returned.

"Don't be shy. If you wish to be in contact, call the Soviet Embassy in Washington," he called out to the former soldiers. "Nobody will drag you out of the United States."

As other audience members jeered at him, he then strode to the front of the room to put printed leaflets on the table in front of the men.

He identified himself as Dmitry Titov of the Soviet mission to the United Nations. The leaflets bore a Soviet statement of July 4 that announced an offer of amnesty to soldiers who turned against their country during its intervention in Afghanistan.

The news conference was sponsored by Freedom House, a New York-based human rights group. The six were brought to the news conference by Freedom House, which had sought their release.

R. Bruce McColl, executive director of the organization, said he called the meeting to urge the establishment of an international commission, not linked to the Soviet Union, to address the issue of Soviet and Afghan prisoners of war.

He said a commission could ensure the estimated 200-300 Soviet POWs remaining in the hands of anti-communist mujahedeen fighters have a choice whether to return home or defect. Freedom House estimates that many are deserters and some actually are fighting for the insurgents.

Friday's news conference, conducted in Russian and English through an interpreter, was punctuated by outbursts in both languages.

Taras Derevyany, 20, a

private who left his Army post on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway three weeks after arriving in Afghanistan in May 1987, looked in the direction of Titov and said, "I don't need your amnesty. America is a free country."

He paused and added, "I gave up my Soviet citizenship."

Mistake

Derevyany and the others said they felt the Soviet intervention was a tragic mistake and told how they were sickened by what they called the Soviet slaughter of civilians, including children, in bombing runs and ground attacks.

"I don't want to go back to the Soviet Union. What will people think of me? He's a deserter, a traitor," he said.

Vladimir Romchuk, 22, a Soviet Army deserter in 1985 who was held by Afghan rebels until his release to the West last April, also looked in the direction of the official and said, "Yes, I am a deserter in your eyes. But I am a happy person here."

The man identifying himself as a Soviet official afterward called the news conference, a politically orchestrated event, that apparently had only "a few cases" in mind and not the welfare of all POWs in Afghanistan.

Of the six, he said: "Some of them, I believe, have been brainwashed."

Soviet prosecutor general Alexander Sukharev, in his announcement July 4, said the Soviet Union had identified 312 soldiers who had been taken prisoner in the war and had established that about a third of them had died, many in the act of trying to escape.

McCorm said he did not want tragedy to occur by the possible return of Soviet prisoners of war to their homeland against their wishes. He said they should be given "freedom of choice."

Between 1945 and 1947 the United States and Britain returned thousands of Soviet prisoners, many against their will who were reported either to have been executed or imprisoned.

Sri Lankans pay respect to holy elephant

COLOMBO, July 16, (Reuters): Raja, a holy elephant who became a Sri Lankan national treasure, died of extreme old age today and thousands came to mourn at the Buddhist temple where he worked.

The majestic tusker died in the central town of Kandy, where for 50 years he had carried a golden casket containing relics of Buddha in an annual religious pageant.

At 81-year-old, Raja equalled the greatest verified age recorded for an elephant by the Guinness Book of Records.

A temple official said thousands of people had lined up to pay their respects to the animal. "Funeral arrangements will be notified later," he said.

Raja's fame was so great that the government declared it a national treasure three years ago and President Junius Jayewardene sent a veterinarian team whenever he fell ill.

One resident of Kandy, 110 km from Colombo, said by telephone: "His body has been covered with a gold braided elephant dress."

"Please call him not only the holiest animal in the world but also the most lovable," another resident said.

The Kandy Perahera pageant in which Raja appeared is part of the "temple of the tooth" festival, which takes place at a shrine housing what is reputed to be a tooth of Buddha.

Raja recently retired and was not due to carry the relic casket at this year's pageant. Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi promised an elephant from India to take the animal's place after its retirement.

Liquor party

KARACHI, July 16, (Reuters): Pakistani police said they arrested 20 people, including three doctors, on Friday for holding a party in a hospital conference hall and drinking alcohol, banned under Islamic law.

Police recovered seven empty liquor bottles from the room in Abbasi Hospital in the western suburbs of Karachi.

Shultz gets Chinese and Soviet assurances

'Seoul Olympics will be safe'

SEOUL, July 16, (Reuters): US Secretary of State George Shultz expressed confidence today the Seoul Olympics would be safe and successful, saying China and the Soviet Union had given assurances that North Korea would refrain from terrorist acts.

"The Soviets have told us flatly that in their view the North Koreans will not mount any effort to disturb the Olympics," Shultz told reporters aboard his plane before arriving in Seoul today for talks with government officials.

He said Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, on a recent visit to Washington, told Shultz and President Reagan "something like, we know the North Koreans well and I can assure you there will be no underline no terrorist acts aimed at the Olympics."

"It was unequivocal, unambiguous," Shultz said of Shevardnadze's statement.

"The Chinese have made similar comments about their point of view," he added.

He also noted that China and the Soviet were both sending teams to the Olympics and said, "I think everybody will be exerting their influence in a positive way."

The 1988 Olympic Games are scheduled to open on Sept 17 amid some of the most elaborate and most intense security ever mounted for an international sporting event.

Fears

There have been fears that communist North Korea, which the United States has branded a terrorist nation and which lost its bid to co-host the Olympics, would try to disrupt the games.

Recently, US officials have detected Soviet deliveries of advanced weapons to North Korea, including surface to air missiles that have been installed near the demilitarized zone and

are able to reach Seoul.

Shultz told reporters: "I'm basically not concerned about security for the Olympics because I observe that the South Koreans are doing such a good job putting into place all the measures that will deter any acts to disturb the Olympics."

To underscore this view, he sped from the airport to the Olympic Village and Olympic Park for a quick tour before checking into his hotel.

He pointedly signed the guest book at the village where 14,000 athletes will live with the words: "With my admiration."

He told reporters the facilities were outstanding by any comparison with facilities constructed by other countries for similar events.

In an arrival statement, Shultz touched on trade tensions between the two countries. South Korea is the United States' seventh largest trading partner.

Insult to monk sparks riots in Burma

RANGOON, July 16, (UPI): At least three people were killed and 30 others wounded during clashes sparked by a bakery worker who flicked a rubber band at a Buddhist begging alms, the official NAB news agency reported.

The confrontations in central Burma began Sunday in Taunggyi, 400 km northeast of Rangoon, when a bakery worker shot a rubber band at one of four young Buddhist novices begging alms.

The incident in the country where 85 per cent of the population is Buddhist, provoked an argument, leading to a fight during which one of the Buddhists was beaten, NAB said.

Monks and novices from the monastery went to the bazaar Sunday to demand that the bakery employee be arrested.

But during a subsequent series of confrontations, hundreds of demonstrators destroyed shops belonging to the owner of the bakery, attacked homes of his relatives and clashed with police.

US, Vietnam agree on resettling political detainees

BANGKOK, July 16, (AP): Vietnam could begin allowing political prisoners to emigrate to the United States in the next several months, Vietnam's official news agency said today.

The Vietnam news agency quoted a statement by US and Vietnamese negotiators as saying that the two nations reached preliminary agreement on releasing prisoners from so-called "re-education" camps.

The joint statement said that while further talks are needed, "both sides are hopeful that the processing of released detainees can begin within the next several months," the news agency said.

The agency, monitored in Bangkok, said the statement was issued on Friday after two days of talks in Hanoi between teams led by Vietnam's Deputy Foreign Minister, Tran Quang Co, and Robert Funseth, US senior Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Refugee Programs.

The statement said Funseth reaffirmed President Reagan's 1984 commitment to welcome for resettlement former detainees and their families who had close ties with the United

States or its ally, the South Vietnamese government.

Co in turn reaffirmed Vietnam's policy to let these people emigrate, it said.

Assurances

Vietnam had demanded that the United States guarantee that the former prisoners would not be allowed to conduct anti-Vietnamese activities once they were resettled. Vietnam has accused US authorities of helping Vietnamese emigres seeking to overthrow the communist government.

The Vietnamese side reaffirmed that Vietnam will not encourage them to engage in anti-US activities, the news agency said.

The United States ended its combat role in the Vietnam war in 1973. In 1975, South Vietnam and the two Vietnams were reunited under a communist government.

The statement said the US team "declared that the released re-education centre detainees coming to the United States would be subject to all US laws, including those affecting the activities of US residents towards other countries."

4 die as police battle Filipino communists

CAGAYAN DE ORO, July 16, (UPI): Three guerrillas and a policeman are dead after a fierce battle between communist rebels and police defending a besieged town hall in southern Mindanao island, a military spokesman said today.

Army division commander Col. Rogelio Villanueva said about 100 New People's Army insurgents yesterday surrounded the town hall of Lianga, Surigao Del Sur, some 860 km south of the Capital.

He said 18 policemen guarding the town hall were forewarned of the attack and barricaded the area with sand bags.

The rebels, speaking through a megaphone, ordered the lawmen to surrender but "instead of laying down their arms, the policemen simultaneously opened fire, killing three of the rebels on the spot," Villanueva said. A policeman was also killed, he added.

In the hour-long battle that ensued, rebels pounded the town hall with grenades and police were forced to radio a nearby village for military reinforcement and troops.

The reinforcements were rushed to the scene in armoured personnel carriers.

The rebels fled on several commandeered vehicles carrying their wounded companions.

The area has been the scene of continuing battles between government and rebel forces that have claimed the lives of at least 50 guerrillas and wounded about 50 others.

Security forces have succeeded in capturing two rebel camps in the area.

Protest

Meanwhile, about 2,000 anti-communist demonstrators surrounded the convent of a Roman Catholic bishop yesterday to protest a church reshuffling they fear will bring radical priests into the diocese.

Carrying placards saying, "we need preachers of God, not radical clergy," and "Clean the church of radical priests and nuns," the protesters denounced Bacolod Bishop Antonio Fortich for having orchestrated the reassignment of priests.

The popular Fortich, who served as an observer last year in failed peace talks to end a 19-year insurgency, was among the signatories of a pastoral letter issued by Philippine bishops urging an end to political violence in Asia's only Christian nation.

Floods kill four in west Japan

TOKYO, July 16, (AP): At least four people were killed and 11 others missing in western Japan as rain-swollen waters flooded homes and highways and disrupted local train service, police said today.

The bodies of three family members were recovered after flood waters washed their car off a road near Toba, Mie prefecture, about 330 kilometres southwest of Tokyo along the Pacific coast, regional police said.

Japan's meteorological agency said in a statement that 84 millimetres (3.4 inches) of rain fell in a one-hour period yesterday in Tottori prefecture, located 500 kilometres southwest of Tokyo on the Japan sea side. The downpour set off minor landslides and cut off communication lines.

A heavy-rain warning for most of western Japan has been in effect since Thursday. Flood warnings were also issued for the Tottori region, where 200 millimetres (8 inches) of rainfall was recorded by yesterday noon.

Meanwhile, widespread flooding caused by torrential monsoon rains in western India has claimed several lives and forced the evacuation of 25,000 people, it was reported.



A river floods houses in Hamada, Japan, as torrential rains lashed western Japan, causing the death of several people. (Reuters wirephoto)

Sihanouk to visit Tokyo as scheduled

TOKYO, July 16, (AP): Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who resigned last Monday as head of the Kampuchean resistance coalition, will visit Japan in August as originally scheduled, according to reports carried in the Japanese press today.

In a message Thursday to Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno, Sihanouk said he would like to visit Japan as scheduled, despite initial plans to call off the trip, the leading economic daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun reported. The newspaper did not cite sources for the message.

Sihanouk was expected to cancel his four-day visit to Japan, to begin Aug 8, in the wake of his resignation. He had said he stepped down in protest against alleged assaults on his own forces by his supposed allies in the three-party coalition, the radical communist Khmer Rouge.

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said today they had re-extended their invitation to the Prince after his resignation but had not yet received a formal reply.

Pretoria bans festival

CAPE TOWN, July 16, (Reuters): Police today banned a sports festival in honour of Nelson Mandela and set up roadblocks around Pollsmoor Prison where the black South African nationalist leader marks his 70th birthday on Monday.

All major birthday gatherings have been banned under two-year-old state of emergency laws and five runners taking part in a "freedom run" said they were briefly detained today.

Two roadblocks, manned by dozens of police armed with shotguns, sealed off the main

road running past Pollsmoor Prison, in the wooded white Cape Town suburb of Tokai.

Motorists were told the road was closed and they were not allowed through without a good reason. A police spokesman said the roadblocks would remain in place until after Mandela's birthday.

An anti-apartheid church leader Allan Boesak said police had sealed off a stadium in Cape Town's Guguletu black township where the festival was to be staged and ordered spectators to leave.

Power shifting to native Taiwanese

TAIPEI, July 16, (AP): The ruling Nationalist Party emerged from its just concluded congress with a revamped leadership to gradually steer Taiwan further from an authoritarian and uncompromising past.

The 15th congress of the Nationalist Party, or Kuomintang, had been advertised as a landmark meeting to plot the 94-year-old party's future after the end of the Chiang Kai-Shek family dynasty.

Ever since the nationalist government behind Chiang Kai-Shek was driven from mainland China in 1949 by communist forces, the party has been consumed by an undying dream of one day returning to rule the world's populous nation.

Although the congress defiantly vowed to keep that dream alive, it cautiously acknowledged the need to replace aging party elders with a more dynamic leadership aware of the need for democratic change at home and pragmatism in dealing with China.

The new party leadership unveiled at the congress clearly showed power is shifting to native Taiwanese, who constitute 85 per cent of this prosperous island's nearly 20 million

people. President Lee Teng-Hui was acclaimed the first Native Taiwanese leader of the party. That helped consolidate his power base that was virtually non-existent when he became head of government in January, following the death of Chiang Ching-Kuo, Chiang Kai-Shek's son.

The party's policy-making central standing committee, long dominated by mainland Chinese, for the first time has a native Taiwanese majority. The new committee was named by Lee yesterday, one day after the congress closed.

Giving more power to native Taiwanese was part of a sweeping liberalisation programme that began with Chiang Ching-Kuo.

Shortly before his death last January, Chiang lifted martial law, allowed the formation of opposition political parties and ended a 38-year ban on travel to China to allow family reunions.

Lee has promised to continue the liberalisation process but may proceed with caution as his new 31-member central standing committee still contains some party elders unenthusiastic about a quick pace of change.

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Medical charges may not be imposed

THE Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul Razzaq has said he would exert his efforts to ensure that no medical charges are imposed during his tenure in office.

However, while emphasising the right of every citizen to medication, the minister said that no country could provide free medical services indefinitely and a time would come when patients would have to pay a nominal charge.

Denied
The minister also denied any knowledge of there being a move towards privatisation of the medical services. He reaffirmed that the ministry was constantly seeking to develop its public services at clinics and other medical centres, as well as to rectify the problem of the shortage of qualified personnel. He said that Kuwaitis represented only 20 to 30 per cent of out-patient staff and were in general reluctant to join the profession.

He pointed out that two new clinics would be in operation soon, one in Sabahiya and the other in Riggi, and that new measures would be put into force to existing clinics to reduce waiting time.

He said that the ministry was currently considering new measures to protect patients from exploitation by doctors and that the General Medical Council was originally set up to safeguard the medical profession and to evaluate the proficiency of doctors.

Priority
A further point concerned the Kuwaiti Pharmaceutical Company, which he said had agreed to provide the ministry with medical supplies at its first priority. He also said that a study was underway to fix prices for locally produced medications. The minister also reported on the successful elimination of



Dr Abdul Razzaq

large numbers of small insects by means of insecticides.

Meanwhile, the Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Public Health for technical affairs Dr Tareq Al Abdul Jader revealed that the ministry is conducting a study to create two new posts of assistant undersecretaries.

Intends
He disclosed that the ministry intends to establish special staff to follow up the health areas headed by an assistant undersecretary. It will also establish a new staff to be headed by an assistant undersecretary for central administration affairs. The two new staffs will work to develop the health services in the country he added.

Al Abdul Jader said that the ministry would introduce shifts among directors of health areas including physicians working in the health centres and hospitals. He added that the ministry will open Sabahiya and Riggi health centres shortly. Further, he said, two new centres have been prepared and they will be commissioned after completing their medical requirements and nursing cadres.

Pearl diving contest

THE director of the Sea Clubs Department and head of the higher committee for the fifth marine week celebrations Abdul Hadi Yaqoub announced that all the six members of the GCC will participate in the second pearl diving contest on Aug 8.

The pearl diving trip will go to diving locations at Al Zour and Khairan and is scheduled for five days and will end on Aug 18. A big reception is planned for the divers at Al Beda Sea Club beach.

Held
Al Yaqoub pointed out that the first pearl diving contest was held on a local level in 1984 and 25 divers took part. The first contest for the GCC states was held in 1985 at which two GCC states took part — namely Qatar and Bahrain.

He added that a pearl diving school was opened in 1987 on the occasion of the fourth marine week in Kuwait. Thirty students graduated from the school during the last year session. Due to the large number of youths desiring to enroll, other branches for

the diving school will be opened.

In a related development a 25 year-old Kuwaiti youth Jamal Yamani working at the National Petroleum Co will for the first time in the history of Kuwait attempt to swim a 35 kilometres distance during the fifth marine week celebrations.

He said that the experience would facilitate his participating at international contests for long distance swimmers.

Dreams
Yamani said that he dreams of swimming the English channel and if it was successful, it would encourage other Kuwaiti youths to participate at international contests.

He previously swam for 27 kilometres at Kuwait's last National Day which he achieved in 11 hours and 25 minutes. Yamani trains for three hours a day, but, believes this to be too short due to his working schedule. He trains at the swimming pool complex at the coastal front.

Undersecretaries should resign when a new minister is appointed: Al Naqeeb

THE Undersecretary at the Ministry of Public Health, Dr Nael Al Naqeeb, called on all undersecretaries and assistant undersecretaries to tender their resignations whenever a new minister is appointed.

The reasoning behind this thinking, he said, was to facilitate the new minister with a free choice of selecting his top aides.

Restudying
The official stressed that top ministry administrators should not stay too long at the same post. However, he called for restudying the proposal to limit the four years the period top ministry officials could stay at their posts.

Dr Al Naqeeb added that the most vital element for good administration is understanding and co-operation. He disclosed that when he was appointed the Undersecretary for the Ministry of Public Health, by the former Minister of Health and present Minister of Planning, Dr Abdul



Dr Nael Al Naqeeb

Rahman Al Awadi; there was clear understanding and co-operation. He said, that when he was the first to co-operate and ask the minister if he desired to make any changes to the administration.

Speaking on the same subject, the Undersecretary of the Minis-

try of Public Works, Mohammad Al Sani, stressed that the minister should have a free hand in selecting his assistants. However, objectivity should be the criteria in its application to Kuwait, he added.

He commented that the proposed period of four years for senior posts is too short to complete a constructive job. He added that changing top officials of a ministry on the appointment of a new minister could produce adverse results.

Elucidating, he said that the new minister should first ascertain if his aides were efficient to execute their duties prior to any changes.

Remain
However, Al Sani said that this did not constitute his support of undersecretaries and assistant undersecretaries remaining for long periods at their posts. The Assistant Director General of the National Housing Authority Faeed Al Ajeel pointed

out that the new minister should be given a free hand in replacing his top aides. But, he said, that such vital decisions should be executed with the knowledge of the Council of Ministers.

On this extensively discussed and sensitive issue, most of the undersecretaries and assistant undersecretaries including top administrators in the various ministries rejected the idea that their continuity in their posts should be the prerogative of the new minister.

Obstacle
They believed that such a step, if approved, would be an obstacle for the administrative reforms and constitute a major destabilising factor for senior ministry officials.

The majority were firm in their conviction that limiting the duration of their stay to a four-year period would prove inadequate for making plans and modernising the systems and departments.

Police patrol command set up in Hawalli

LIEUTENANT Colonel Khalifa Sulaiman Matar, the commander of the Hawalli governorate police patrol, has said that population density in that area was the principal reason for the establishment of a police patrol command, in order to keep law and order and maintain peace and security.

He told Al Dakhiliyyah magazine, issued by the Ministry of the Interior, that the force needed additional qualified members to meet security requirements and to be able to provide full coverage of the area.

He pointed out that the command force comprised 120 officers of various ranks and 70 vehicles. He also said that the patrols would respond to any call for assistance and appeal to members of the public to extend further co-operation with the force by reporting all suspicious incidents, including acts of vandalism on public property.

King Hussein visits Saudi Arabia

JEDDAH, July 16, (AP): Jordan's King Hussein arrived today for consultations with the Saudi Arabian monarch on the latest developments in the Middle East.

King Fahd was on hand to receive Hussein at the airport and talks between the two monarchs started shortly after. Attending on the Saudi side were Crown Prince Abdullah and Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal.

Views
No official statements were made on the talks. Hussein is a frequent visitor to Saudi Arabia to exchange views with the influential Fahd on issues of common interest.

The Palestinian problem and developments in the nearly 8-year-old Iraq-Iran war are usually the top items on their agenda. Fahd's oil-rich kingdom

is also a major benefactor of Jordan.

Hussein has visited Syria, Iraq and Egypt since returning about two weeks ago, from the pan-Arab summit in Algeria and a vacation in London.

Saudi Arabia is Jordan's main financial backer, and the only Arab oil state still meeting its aid commitments to Jordan under a 10-year-old Arab summit agreement that expires this year.

Depends
In Algeria, Hussein urged Arab leaders to continue financial help for countries such as Jordan on the front line with Israel.

Jordan depends heavily on the almost \$60 million it receives every two months from Saudi Arabia, as well as up to \$100 million of Jordanian salaries of thousands of Jordanians employed in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

US replaces carrier in the Gulf

WASHINGTON, July 16, (UPI): The aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson and eight escort ships are scheduled to arrive in the Gulf by the end of this month to replace the Forrestal carrier battle group, a Navy official said yesterday.

During the turnover, "expected to last a couple of days," there will be two nuclear-powered carriers in the nearby Arabian sea, said the official, who commented on condition of anonymity.

He said the Forrestal, which left its homeport on April 25, and its escorts will not be returning immediately to the United States, the official said.

He declined to say where the Forrestal will be patrolling, but said it would not be in the Gulf region — the nearby Arabian sea or Indian ocean.

The Vinson left its homeport on June 15, the official said.

Municipality workers meet minister

THE Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Mohammed Sayed Al Rifai last week met a delegation from the union of the Municipality and Fire Department.

The head of the union said that discussions centred on allowances to be paid, including other demands of workers at the Municipality and Fire Department.

The delegation briefed the minister on the various problems faced by inspectors of the Municipality during their duties and asked for protection during their work against employers who sometimes attack the inspectors.

The topic of rewards granted by HH the Amir to firemen who extinguished the fire in Ahmadi oil tanks last year was also

brought up and the minister was informed that 76 firemen were deprived of this payment of appreciation.

Al Barrak disclosed that the minister had called for the setting up of a joint committee comprising members of the union and the administration to study amendments to the basic charter of the Social Security Fund of the municipality and Fire Department.

He added that the minister praised the union's proposal to set up a committee at the Municipality to ensure that donations and part time allowances were distributed to an even handed manner.

Concluding, Al Barrak said that Al Rifai had assured the workers union that a study would be conducted into their demands.

Cautious welcome to US statement

BAGHDAD, July 16, (KUNA): Iraq has cautiously welcomed the US assessment of the situation in the Arabian Gulf region as spelled out by Vice-President George Bush in the Security Council debate on US Navy's downing of Iran Air flight 655 in which all 298 passengers and crew perished.

"The statement of the American vice-president before the Security Council on Thursday contained positive elements which he linked the general situation in the region with continuation of the (Iraq-Iran) war and stressed Iran's responsibility in this connection," the Iraqi news agency quoted Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz as saying last night.

Aziz recalled that his country has more than once declared full readiness to engage in peace talks with Iran.

Arab League envoy praises Kuwait press

WASHINGTON, July 16, (KUNA): The ambassador to the Arab League in Washington Clovis Maksud, yesterday held a luncheon in honour of the editors of Kuwaiti newspapers, who are accompanying Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah. It was attended by some of the Reagan administration's top information officers and American newsmen dealing with the Middle East.

The editors were able to discuss information issues with their American counterparts during the luncheon and also to outline the basic Kuwaiti and Arab positions to these American officials and newsmen.

Considered
Maksud, although currently a diplomat, was a prominent Arab editor, journalist, writer, and academic who currently is considered one of the best Arab spokesmen in the United States. Attending the luncheon were such prominent American per-

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday received acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

A turning point in US-Kuwait ties

THOSE who lack experience or knowledge about Arabs do so no more, as the visit by HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah to the US gave a good impression of Kuwait and Arabs in general, a local daily stressed yesterday.

Daily "Al Rai Al Aam" editorially said that during his six-day working visit to Washington, Sheikh Saad was able to draw the American attention and that of the world to Arab causes through objective arguments and serious dialogue, "the shortest channels to the American mentality and the most effective on media and political circles."

HH's visit was full of life, something that is easily witnessed during his talks with senior US government and Congress officials, in which Sheikh Saad re-emphasised the necessity of realising comprehensive and lasting peace for the 40-year-old Arab-Israeli conflict, the paper noted.

It cited that the Kuwaiti heir apparent addressed President Ronald Reagan as head of a friendly great country, while the US President hailed Kuwait's steadfastness and strong will which refused to bow to terrorism.

"The Crown Prince's visit was truly a prominent turning point in US-Kuwaiti and US-Arab relations as the leading Kuwaiti official was able to give a complete image of the Arab stance via simple and meaningful words, Al Rai Al Aam concluded.

Pay telephone bills, asks minister

THE Minister of Communications Abdullah Al Sharhan has urged telephone subscribers to settle their dues, failing which, the ministry would seek means to recover those outstanding.

The minister conceded that the ministry is finding it difficult to collect KD13 million of subscribers' unpaid bills for 1987. However, through special arrangements, the ministry was successful in collecting an amount of KD14 million of the same year.

The official said that a study is currently underway to equate

rates of the overseas phone calls with those in foreign and Arab countries.

He added that another study is underway to provide details with telephone services and to determine the costs of such services.

Al Sharhan said that mistakes in bills was not solely the fault of the ministry, but, also that of the subscribers. He explained that some subscribers permitted friends and neighbours to use their phones and when bills were received forgot about the calls and claimed they were not made.

On mail distribution, he said that the auto-sorting process still faces some minor problems and that in general mail distribution did not "have any major problems."

Replying to a question on the maritime cable project linking Kuwait and Bahrain, the minister said that the project is held in abeyance due to the present special circumstances in the region.

Defence planning

KUWAIT'S Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad yesterday presided over a meeting of the higher committee for defence planning.

The minister urged more efforts and better performance by all the ministry's bodies.

The meeting, which was attended by undersecretary Faisal Al Dawoud and other undersecretaries, was part of the ministry's administrative development programme.

UAE to join navigation plan in Gulf

ABU DHABI, July 16, (Reuters): The United Arab Emirates (UAE) will join a Japanese-funded scheme to reduce the war risks of navigating in the Gulf, a Japanese embassy spokesman said today.

He said UAE officials had agreed to join a Kuwaiti and Saudi Arabia in the scheme, involving the erection of advanced beacons which will provide ships with a more precise fix on their positions than presently available.

He said a Japanese parliamentary delegation left the UAE today for Muscat to seek Oman's approval for the plan.

Shipping sources say the beacons will allow warships and merchant ships to establish with greater accuracy which areas have been swept of mines.

The \$10-million scheme is Japan's contribution to protecting shipping in the Gulf, which provides Japan with most of its oil. Several Japanese-owned ships have been attacked in the tanker war between Iran and Iraq.

Contracts signed

TWO contracts worth KD1.006 million for beautification and maintenance of gardens, streets and inter-sections in the second and third zones were signed in Kuwait yesterday.

A statement by the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fisheries said that the director-general and board chairman Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij signed the contracts with local companies today.

Summer courses



A club member learns how to operate a cine camera.

THE summer educational season for young scientists at the Kuwait Science Club for Girls has begun with four courses dealing with police work, auto mechanics, astronomy and cinematography.

The courses will include lec-

tures, demonstrations and field visits, and will take students from theoretical work to actual practice.

A total of 70 club members of various ages will take the courses.

70 wild dogs killed

THE Animal Health Department of the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs announced yesterday that it had killed over 70 wild dogs in the Wafra area during the period July 3 to July 12.

The department added that after repeated attacks by wild dogs on animal farms in Wafra area, the department in co-operation with the Ministry of Interior formed combat teams to eradicate this menace.

During last month and early this month, stray dogs in the area attacked many farms killing and seriously injuring 145 heads of cattle. However, the dogs only killed the sheep without so much as eating any meat.

Samples of the dogs killed were tested for rabies. The presence of too many wild dogs was attributed to the farmers themselves who raised such dogs and then neglected them.

IDB donation for Sri Lankan Muslims

COLOMBO, July 16, (KUNA): The Saudi-Arabia based Islamic Development Bank has donated 6.5 million Sri Lankan rupees (\$200,000) worth of goods to an estimated 6,000 Muslim refugee families in the strife-torn northern and eastern provinces, officials said today.

Affected
An official from the Sri Lankan Ministry for Muslim and Cultural Affairs told KUNA, six affected Muslim districts in the Northern and Eastern Provinces received the help.

The refugees are part of the estimated 120,000 Muslims affected by the more than five-

year-long Tamil separatist war. They are mostly from the Eastern Province which has a sizeable Muslim population.

The official said, fishing nets, water pumps, sewing machines, and carpentry tools were some of the goods gifted by the Islamic Development Bank.

This help comes following appeals by the Sri Lankan Muslim Affairs Minister, Mohamed Haniffa Mohamed, to Middle Eastern countries for help to rehabilitate the affected Muslims of the island.

The Islamic Development Bank last month indicated its willingness to donate seven

million Sri Lankan rupees (\$250,000) to help these Muslim refugees. The donation made of material is in addition to the funds promised by the Bank.

Expected
Additional material worth 4.5 million rupees (\$150,000) is expected to be donated to the Muslims by the Islamic Development Bank.

The estimated 120,000 Muslims were rendered destitute following the Tamil-Muslim clashes and the current battle between the Tamil Tiger guerrillas and the Indian peacekeeping forces. Muslim sources told KUNA.

Study on chickens

KUWAIT Institute for Scientific Research is currently conducting a study to determine the "prime-time" for egg laying chickens in Kuwait.

The project aims at providing local poultry companies and local poultry breeders with data on poultry breeding to enhance their production.

The project will also study specifications of poultry farms for egg-laying chickens and feeding systems during the growing and egg-laying period.

Six experiments are conducted during different periods in the year to obtain optimum results.

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Ext: 1303



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Tender No.	Material	Tender Fee	Issuing Date	Closing Date
7/988	Stainless Steel Plates	KD. 2/-	18.7.1988	5.9.1988
7/997	Gaskets	KD. 2/-	18.7.1988	5.9.1988
7/1056	Carbon Steel Plates	KD. 2/-	18.7.1988	5.9.1988

Tender documents can be purchased from the office of the HPPC secretary at KNPC Head Office on 1st floor, Room No. 57 as from above noted issuing date.

Mango delights

MANGO festivals at local hotels in Kuwait were an annual affair until 1984, when they suddenly stopped. This year, the festival was revived. Some 25 varieties of mangoes were displayed at the festival, opened by Mrs Zahid Saeed, wife of the Pakistani ambassador to Kuwait. Over a 100 mango varieties were grown in Pakistan.

At the recent mango festival, some of the finest qualities like sindhri, chausa, lotia, methri, desi, kharea, sunehra dusehri, surkh gulab and others were used by the hotel chefs to create a variety of desserts.

The umripe mango is an important ingredient in many a pickle, sauce and garnish. The festival was held by the Shama International Trading Company in co-operation with the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel, which is promoting the exotic fruit for a week at its coffee shop.



Mrs Zahid Saeed (fifth left) pictured with ladies at the mango festival.



The Pakistani ambassador pictured with guests after the opening.

(Photos by Javed Basra)

Gulf Air holds reception

GULF AIR, Kuwait, recently hosted a reception to celebrate the introduction of Boeing 767-300 aircraft to its fleet. Gulf Air's manager in Kuwait, Saleh Al Kindy, said that the Boeing 767-300, an advanced type of aircraft, is now flying on the Kuwait route as well.

Al Kindy cut a cake to celebrate the addition of new aircraft to the Gulf Air fleet. Guests, who included a large number of diplomats, airline officials and travel agents, were treated to dinner. A raffle was also held and attractive prizes were presented to the winners.

The reception was held at the Kuwait Meridien Hotel.



A raffle winner receives a prize from Al Kindy.



Al Kindy (second left) cuts the cake as guests applaud.

WHAT'S ON

SOCIAL

German-speaking Cultural Association

The regular coffee mornings for ladies will continue on a small scale during the summer months. Coffee mornings will be held on Sunday, August 7 at Kuwait Hilton's La Patisserie from 10 am on those days. All German-speaking women are welcome.

Summer Belle 88

The United Goans Centre will hold their annual Summer Belle 88 contest on August 11 at the SAS Hotel's The Tent. The gala event marks the 10th anniversary of UGC. Entertainment includes music by Stepping Stones and City Limits. For further details contact Tony Gonsalves — 2612024 or Joe Fernandes 5655140.

Y.M.C.A.

The Y.M.C.A. will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks will be in attendance.

D'Assisi Association

The association will hold a social evening-cum-variety show on August 11 at Messilah Beach Hotel. The event is part of the 40th anniversary of Indian independence. Top Ranks and Next of Kin will be in attendance. For details contact Leena — 2469811, 9.30 am to 5 pm; Henry 3291909 (am), 3717346 (pm) or Augustin 5746754, after 6 pm.

Onam Festival

The Viswahaarathi Theatres, Abbasiya, will celebrate Onam on Aug 25 at the Indian Arts Circle. IAC President M. Mathews will be the chief patron. The programme comprises Onam songs, Mohiniyattam, classical dances, Thiruvathirakkali, folk dances, light music, one-act play, boat race and Kerala rural arts. Those interested in taking part contact Lazar Varghese — 4314511; Thomas Perumpilly — 4810490 ext. 207; Varghese Paradayil — 2422973.

ARTS

German Painting Exhibition

An exhibition of German paintings at the Kuwait Hilton Hotel, open daily until July 20.

More than 30 paintings, representing the work of a group of German artists known as The Blue Rider, will be shown in the Hilton's lobby. The show has been organised by the German Embassy in Kuwait.

Islamic Arts Museum

The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm, Saturday to Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show. Tareq Rajab Museum

The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

HOTELS

At the Hilton

La Palma has introduced a lunch and dinner buffet cycle featuring a variety of Arabic and international dishes, soups, mezzes, salads and desserts to suit all tastes. Open daily from 6.30 am to midnight.

Beat the summer heat at the La Patisserie, offering ice cream creations, fresh fruit juice and fruit cocktail crea-

Joe says goodbye

KUWAIT Hilton's public relations manager, Joseph Daccache, a familiar face in the hotel lobby and at banquets, says goodbye to Kuwait with a fairly appealing message: "Love you (No, no, no, I'm not leaving my heart with a girl, he mutters with bated breath) and leave you."

Joe, as he was known among his friends and colleagues, has been with the Hilton for 14 years, of these he spent six "adventurous years" in Kuwait, acting as unofficial "adviser" to hundreds of hotel guests.

He says: "The hotel business does the most beautiful things to you, the best part is that it keeps you in constant touch with people from all over the world, from all walks of life". With such enthusiasm, there was never a dull moment in Joe's company for his friends. And for hotel guests, he was always on hand to "give them

first hand information about the country (Kuwait) they were visiting, making them feel at home."

Joe has been in the hotel business for 36 years, including 10 years in public relations. He says though the job was satisfying, he has "saturated the challenge". Now, looking for a new challenge, he goes to join the Bahrain Hilton as its Rooms Division Manager.

"I have been an operations man; and I sort of missed it," he says. "I'm a fish without water outside a hotel." The day he retires he will convert his "home" into a hotel, he says.

At the moment he is leaving Kuwait with mixed feelings. "I'll miss Kuwait; nobody believes me when I say this," he says ruefully. Whether he'll miss Kuwait or not is debatable, but many of his friends will certainly miss his friendly company. FA



Joseph Daccache: farewell

Music committee encourages new talent

KUWAIT'S government has taken steps to boost music culture and has ordered the formation of a committee to encourage young Kuwaiti singers, according to Ahmed Abdulkarim, controller of the music department at Radio Kuwait.

The committee comprises representatives of Kuwait Radio and music companies in the country. It was formed in

accordance with a recent Kuwaiti cabinet decision.

Abdulkarim denied reports that the committee was discouraging new singers and emphasised: "The committee has been designed to encourage new singers and develop their talent."

Over 18-year-old Kuwaiti singers, who are introduced by a music company, are given a chance to further their careers.

At the Sheraton

Mangoes in the coffee shop: dishes featuring the mango will be offered for a week.

Dine in the Riccardo restaurant to enjoy Italian cuisine: music by the Sienna Duo.

Every Sunday, enjoy Lebanese cuisine at the Al Hamra, which features seafood specialities every Wednesday night. Live entertainment is provided by the Lords.

The Hunt Room offers authentic English atmosphere and features a selection of the best grilled food; music by the solo harpist, Harp Dreams.

At the Meridien

La Brasserie, open from 12 noon to 4 pm, offers breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Beat the summer heat with cool juices offered in the lobby lounge; musical entertainment is provided in the evenings.

SPORTS

PBAK bowling tournament

The PBAK inter-commercial bowling tournament will be held in the second week of August. All companies wishing to take part are requested to register on or before August 7 at the 300 Club. For details contact PBAK director Sarah Macarimbang — 4843447.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.15 Good Morning
- 9.30 Cartoons: Space Adventure
- 10.00 News followed by variety entertainment
- 10.15 Thamar Al Shok: daily serial, starring: Abdul Munim Madbouli, Rashwan Tawfiq, Fatima Tabai, Ahsan Qalawi.
- 11.00 News Summary
- 11.15 Ablah Munira: local serial, starring: Khalid Al Nafisi, Muna Jubar, Saad Ardash.
- 12.15 Hardcastle and McCormick: with Brian Keith
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 2.30 Fursan Al Hikmah: Arabic serial
- 3.35 Bill and Sebastian: cartoon serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.20 Sadiqi Al Wafi: Arabic film, featuring Farook Fishawi, Saeed Saleh, Amin Al Hindi
- 6.00 Al Jawharah: children's serial, starring Abdul Munim Ibrahim, Mohammad Dafaarawi, Wafa Shihab, Huda Essa.
- 7.10 Variety Show
- 7.50 Wa Qalat Al Arab: And the Arabs Said... Arabic serial.
- 8.30 Diwaniet Shuara Al Nabt: poetry session
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Naar Al Duqqan: daily serial: starring



A file photo of the fifth Arab Cup football championship, now being played in Amman, Jordan. One of the matches will be shown at 9.00 pm on KTV 2 tonight.

Kamal Shinnawi, Sherihan

- 10.30 Najma Fi Sama'a Al Fajr: host Aminah Al Sharrab looks at the life and work of Arab actor Rahel Saud Al Rashed.
- 11.50 News Summary/World News via Satellite/Closedown.

KTV 2

- 4.00 Holy Quran
- 4.10 Cartoons
- 4.25 Gold Cup: recorded replay of Brazil vs Australia.
- 5.55 Heathcliff
- 6.30 3-2-1 Contact: homo sapiens communicate with each other by means of language.
- 7.10 Valerie: "Of Human Bondage".
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Hilary's World of Adventure
- 9.00 Arab Cup Football: from Amman
- 11.15 Best-seller: A Perfect Spy. Pym learns the truth about his father in this episode. The series is based on John le Carre's novel.
- 12.05 News Summary
- 12.10 Magazine D'Actualite
- 12.30 Holy Quran/closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0600 World News
- 06 News about Britain
- 15 Radio New-zeal
- 30 3rd Play of the Week: Quarter-time's Terms, 10th and 17th Great British Concert
- Halls: 31st Bernstein: Conductor and Composer
- 0100 News Summary (ex 3rd) followed by Play of the Week: 3rd Quarter-time's Terms contd: 10th and 17th La Peste — Parts 1 and 2; 31st Prometheus Brund
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The Third Policeman (ex 3rd Sports world: 10th Midnight Express)
- 30 The Ken Bruce Show
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 A World in Edgeways
- 0400 Newsdesk
- 50 Glyndebourne — The Early Years (ex 3rd The Music of Weber)
- 45 Reflections
- 50 Financial News
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News

- Summary
- 30 The A-Z of Hollywood
- 45 Letter from America
- 0600 Newsdesk
- 30 Jazz for the Asking
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 From Our Own Correspondent
- 45 Words (ex 3rd Sportsworld)
- 50 Waveguide (ex 3rd)
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 The Pleasure of Yours
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Science in Action
- 45 A Life at the UN (ex 3rd and 10th The Bishop: Come to Lambeth)
- 1000 News Summary followed by Short Story
- 15 Classical Record Review
- 30 Religious Service
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 3rd Play of the Week: Quarter-time's Terms, 10th and 17th Great British Concert
- Halls: 31st Bernstein: Conductor and Composer
- 1200 News Summary (ex 3rd) followed by Play of the Week: 3rd Quarter-time's Terms contd: 10th and 17th La Peste — Parts 1 and 2; 31st Prometheus

Bound ALL TIMES GMT

FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 Latin American Hour
- 1800 Pops
- 1900 Heiter Skelter
- 2130 News
- 2145 Pops
- 2200 Jazz Hour
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Music
- 0200 Closedown

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behereen Qaul
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Ek Khayal Ek Geet
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Geet Kahani
- 2100 Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

- Kuwait
- Al Hafez Pharmacy
- Souk Wageh: Salah Al Din St.
- Al Gharnata Pharmacy
- Al Rashed Bldg., Fahad Al Saleh St.
- Hawalli and Nugra
- Al Ikhlaz Pharmacy
- Opp. Andalus, Beirut St.
- Salamiya and Rumaithiya
- Al Markaziya Pharmacy
- Asfoor Bldg., Omar Bin Al Aas St.
- Fahadheel and Ahmadi
- Al Bastoor Pharmacy
- Qais Al Ghanem Bldg., Dabbous St., Fheel
- Jeeb Al Shiyyokh
- Al Razi Pharmacy
- Mubarak Kharencj Bldg., Arca 17, Block 14
- Jahra
- Al Khalid Pharmacy
- Opp. Cooperative Society

CINEMA TODAY

- Al Andalus
- Laila Al Kadd Ala Bakaiza
- Wa Zaghloul (Arabic)
- Starring: Suhair Babil, Issad Yunus
- Al Salamiya
- Police Academy IV
- Starring: Steve Guttenburg, Bubba Smith
- Al Hamra
- Al Nimm Wal Unsa (Arabic)
- Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
- Drive-In
- Hikayat Nisf Million Dollar (Arabic)
- Starring: Yabya Fakhriani, Ilham Shahin
- Al Firdous
- Jheel Ke Us Paar (Hindi)
- Starring: Dharmendra, Mumtaz
- Fahadheel Open-Air
- Kunwara Baap (Hindi)
- Starring: Rajesh Khanna

- Al Fahadheel
- To Burn the Sun
- Al Jahra
- Mere Humdam Mere Dost (Hindi)
- Granada
- Kasam (Hindi)
- Starring: Anil Kapoor, Poonam Dhillon
- Sulaibikhat
- Mad Mission IV
- Al Jeeb
- Anantharam (Malayalam)
- Ahmadi Drive-In
- The Valley Girl

PRAYERS

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| Fajr | 3.28 am |
| Zuhr | 11.54 |
| Asr | 3.29 pm |
| Maghreb | 6.48 |
| Isha | 8.17 |

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NOTHING can be honorable where justice is absent
— Cicero, Roman statesman-philosopher (106 BC-43 BC)

Japan scandals nothing unusual

By Nao Nakanishi

TOKYO, (Reuters): Two financial scandals have recently rocked Japanese politics but analysts say there is nothing unusual about the behaviour revealed — those involved are just unlucky that they were found out.

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Friday apologized for his secretary's involvement in one of the scandals, in which some politicians' aides bought shares in a real estate company before they were publicly placed in 1984.

The secretaries of both the current Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and his predecessor Yasuhiro Nakasone were named as having been involved in the insider trading scandal.

What they did was not illegal under current insider trading rules but the embarrassment of the disclosure has already led to the resignation of the real estate company's chairman and the chairman of Japan's top financial newspaper.

Resigned

Four senior officials in the prime minister's office have also resigned in the past month as a result of a bribery scandal involving government advertising contracts for traffic safety campaigns.

In West Germany or other countries, it would leave definite marks on the government, said professor Toshinobu Hara of Tokai University, who has studied in West Germany.

"But this kind of thing is happening every day and all over in Japanese politics. The only special thing is that this took place at the top level and got disgraced," he said.

Finance Minister Miyazawa, author of the book "The Structure of Corruption," agreed. Stock trading, he said, was increasingly used to channel funds to politicians after public criticism of the extravagant parties which politicians used to hold for company executives in return for large cash gifts.

Japanese companies have been known to give shares to politicians and arrange for them to jump in value as a way of disguising their political

contributions.

Unlisted stocks are a good vehicle for this sort of deal because there were virtually no regulations governing them, Murobushi said.

"Companies have never been reluctant to pay money to politicians," Tokai University's Hara said. "They are just searching for certain, safe, and unobtrusive ways of money delivery."

Most Japanese see politicians as people who can help them overcome their personal problems and are not at all interested in their philosophies or policies.

Political analysts say one of the keys to the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's long tenure in office is the attention paid by its politicians to doing favours, big or small, for constituents, especially businessmen and farmers.

"For individuals, the Liberal Democratic Party man in the village, to whom they occasionally give presents, will find their son a job, or their daughter a nice husband," Hara said.

"Everybody is seeking to get favours out of politicians by supporting and serving them," Murobushi added.

Corruption

Makoto Sataka, an author on business subjects, said political corruption is especially common in the real estate business because politicians often know in advance about government development plans.

"The (share) scandal came probably only came to light because of dissatisfaction in the real estate company concerned about the dictatorial character of the resigned chairman," he added.

Hara said he believed the money collected by such schemes was generally used by politicians to finance their political activities.

"Nobody can be really upset about the scandal. Everybody is doing more or less the same," he said.

"If anybody, people in big cities might be angry because they do not enjoy this kind of benefit from politicians. But you will have to wait until the next elections to find out how they feel about it," he added.

Intermediate-range nuclear missile treaty verification procedures

American negotiators still wrestling with Soviet counterparts

THE Intermediate-Range Nuclear Missile Treaty (INF) is signed, sealed and ratified, but American negotiators are still wrestling with their Soviet counterparts over the exact rules the inspectors will have to follow during the verification procedures.

No precise guidelines had been put into writing before the treaty went into effect, for neither side expected them to cause any serious problems.

Indeed, it is unlikely that they will because there is enough evidence that both sides want the treaty to function effectively and smoothly. But with both American and Soviet inspectors having arrived in the United States and the Soviet Union respectively, agreeing on every little detail of the procedures has become urgent.

Task

The most crucial task of the American inspectors is to make sure that no SS-20 missiles (which are banned under the treaty) come off the big assembly line that also produces the SS-25 which is not covered by the treaty. The SS-20 has three warheads and the SS-25 only one. But their commanders from the outside look exactly the same. To be able to distinguish between the two, the US developed a very special X-ray machine. The agreed guidelines, however, do not allow the American inspectors to X-ray the nuclear warhead, only the rest of the missile.

The Russians do not want the inspectors to peer into the inner secrets of their nuclear warheads, and, I am told, there is no need to do so. An X-ray picture of the innards of the missiles provides all the evidence necessary to determine whether the package is a SS-20 or SS-25 missile. The reason for this complex procedure is that up to now the two missiles came off the same assembly line.

Problems

This is only one of the myriads of problems involved in making certain that the Soviets adhere to the treaty provisions. I understand that the American inspectors have found the Russians cooperative and relatively relaxed about their "intrusion," in fact, more so than the Americans.

The Russians, for instance, did not inspect the equipment the Americans brought with them and began to do so only after Soviet inspectors' baggage was searched by American officials on their arrival in the United States.

Ensuring that no violations of the treaty occur is of course relatively easy since the INF Treaty provides for the destruc-

tion of all intermediate range missiles.

The START Treaty, as currently envisioned, provides for only a fifty per cent destruction of long-range nuclear missiles, which is much more complex to control and verify than bringing the number down to zero. The two superpowers have given each other three years for the destruction of all intermediate-range nuclear missiles. A total of 450 warheads will be removed from deployed US missiles and 1,667 warheads from deployed Soviet missiles.

Plane

One of the most disturbing pieces of information that have emerged from the controversy over the mistaken identification of the Iranian passenger plane has been the disclosure that the commander of the USS Vincennes had only four minutes to make up his mind whether to fire his missiles against the approaching plane he assumed to be hostile.

It is not much time for a human being to decide such a crucial question. It makes one shudder at the well known fact that the commander of the US Strategic Air Force would not have any more time to determine whether the United States is under attack by hostile forces. It is on his subsequent assessment that the President of the United States would issue his order for action and he too would not have much more than four minutes to make up his mind as to whether to unleash the American nuclear deterrent.

One can only hope that the electronic systems at the disposal of the Strategic Air Command is more reliable than that of the USS Vincennes.

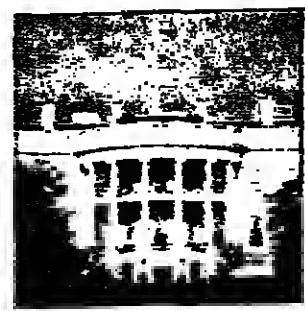
Disturbing

The second most disturbing piece of information is the now widely accepted conclusion from what happened in the Gulf that the US Navy is designed for ocean war-fighting against the Soviet Union and not for the kind of operations it is now engaged in, in the kind of pond the Gulf is, and that the USS Vincennes is the wrong ship in the wrong place, carrying electronic equipment that was not designed for the tasks it is supposed to fulfill in the Gulf. Furthermore, some experts claim that the Aegis, the crucial gear on the USS Vincennes is functioning best when asked to determine how many hostile planes are approaching, but not to identify the outlines of one single plane.

The reliability and use of the electronic gadget involved in the decision-making processes is now under intense official investigation. But since the rules of engagement require a military commander to shoot if there is the possibility that he "may be under enemy attack" and that he must not assume the risk of having failed in his duty to protect the forces under his command, it is unlikely that he will be blamed for the air disaster.

Inside Washington

By Henry Brandon



Adm. William Crowe (left) and Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev.

But since the rules of engagement require a military commander to shoot if there is the possibility that he "may be under enemy attack" and that he must not assume the risk of having failed in his duty to protect the forces under his command, it is unlikely that he will be blamed for the air disaster.

The human catastrophe has raised anew the question in Congress and in the press whether, under these circumstances, the US Navy should remain in the Gulf, whether the US should continue to lean toward supporting Iraq and whether this accident has not opened up an opportunity for diplomatic initiatives to bring the war to an end.

All the indications point to the fact that President Reagan will keep the Navy in the Gulf to further strengthen the confidence among the Gulf states that they can count on American help in an emergency.

The composition of the naval force, though, may undergo some changes, including the withdrawal of the USS Vincennes. However, with Iraq now enjoying a definite advantage in the war, the administration may

decide to assume a more even-handed policy between Iraq and Iran, should the Iranians become more hospitable to a diplomatic solution.

However self-serving, the appeal of Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to Iran's terrorist organisations not to avenge the downing of the airliner in order not to defile the sympathies Iran is garnering around the world, it is also viewed here as an indirect, if faint, hint that he, the so-called pragmatist, is searching for ways of signalling the desirability of a diplomatic solution to the war.

Attempts

Sofar, whatever attempts were made by the United States behind the scenes led nowhere. Iraq, feeling victorious, wants to exploit the advantages it has gained and the Iranians, unwilling to admit the major setbacks they have suffered, continue the war in the absence of an internal political consensus which prevents the government from reaching any decisive conclusions.

It is likely, though, that the Japanese will come under renewed pressure to make a more substantial financial contribution to the American efforts to keep the sea lanes in the Gulf open, for it is Japan, more than any other country, that depends for its oil on resources in the Gulf. Recent opinion polls show that Americans continue to be full of contempt for Iran, but this did not interfere with the decision that the United States would pay compensation to Iran for the loss of lives in the accident.

Convention

American political conventions are a serious attempt at uniting the party in preparation for the ultimate struggle, the presidential election campaign, disguised as a gaudy, entertaining circus production.

That of the Democrats begins in Atlanta, tomorrow. Michael Dukakis, the governor of Massachusetts, will be announced as the Democrats' presidential candidate. Nothing sensational is likely to happen, and yet the organizers of the convention are terribly worried about its outcome.

The reason is the unpredictability of Jesse Jackson, who challenged Dukakis to the last, and the need for the party to project unity to the nation. The proceedings will be nationally televised and if people gain the impression that behind all the hoop-la there are deep divisions within the party, it could do a great deal of damage to the party, for the undecided voters may conclude that the Democrats are not ready to govern.

Compromise

They will also want to see whether the political compromises that have to be reached at every convention will appeal to the so-called swing-voters who are likely to decide the outcome of this election. It will be important to them to learn more about the candidate who is still not well known across the country. Will he be the same man going to the convention as coming out of it, or will he have learned something new that will add to their perspective, their feelings about him. It will also matter whether the vice-presidential candidate will add a new dimension to the ticket or simply reinforce existing strengths in the party. Perhaps, most important, will he be whether the Democrats at their convention create the impression that they are on the defensive or whether they are in shape to take the offensive.

Frank Carducci, the Secretary of Defense, during a conversation with Soviet Defense Minister, General Dimitri T. Yazov that took place while President Reagan was meeting with General Secretary Gorbachev asked

whether the Soviet government had indeed decided to switch its military forces to what could be called a "defensive strategy".

The Soviet defence minister then confirmed that this was indeed true, that a defensive doctrine was being implemented. To this Carducci replied that American intelligence has yet to see any evidence of it. It takes time, the Soviet minister replied, but the evidence will gradually become visible.

It is from this point of view that the visit of Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev, the Soviet Chief of Staff, to the United States is particularly important. He came on the invitation of Admiral William J. Crowe Jr., chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, who in turn had been invited to the Soviet Union in September.

Exchanges

These exchange visits between the American and Soviet military are unprecedented and hence significant. The State Department originally opposed Akhromeyev's visit and carried its protest to the White House, but General Powell, the president's national security adviser, decided in favour of Adm. Crowe.

With arms control likely to make further progress in the next few years, the big issue for the military on both sides is to adapt their strategic force structures accordingly. Not an easy task, especially on the American side, where it is said that the war-fighting between the services over budgetary allocations is worse than the cold war.

We don't know too much about how these internal battles are fought within the Soviet military, but most likely they bear a similarity to those fought on the American side. There is good reason to believe that Admiral Crowe raised this subject with his guest.

Even though the START Treaty is still far from signature and the conventional arms control talks have hardly begun, the military with the long lead-time for weapons production and their differences over what weapons are dispensable, are anxious to know, for planning purposes, of what adjustments will become necessary in devising a new force structure.

Meanwhile, General Akhromeyev has been given some demonstrations of the power of the American naval forces. He was permitted from the deck of one of the mighty aircraft carriers to watch the take-off and landings of American fighter bombers, in one case three of them taking off simultaneously, something, I am told, left him in awe.

Bush's UN speech a political move

By Tom Raum

UNITED NATIONS, (AP): George Bush's speech to the UN Security Council, voicing compassion for victims of an American-downed Iranian airliner while insisting that Iran share responsibility, gave the US vice-president a forum for displaying traits he has hoped to project in his presidential campaign.

The address on Thursday — in which Bush looked straight at his Iranian accuser and told him "of course we care" — was viewed by aides as a demonstration of his leadership, compassion and foreign-policy credentials.

Bush's expressions of regret went further than his past reaction to the downing of the plane, which he previously had called "just an unhappy incident" while telling audiences "life goes on."

"Anytime you can go and speak forcefully about bringing peace to this part of the world, it's worth doing," said Bush chief of staff Craig Fuller afterward. "He didn't do it for political reasons. But I do not believe it will be harmful politically."

Denounced

Bush, who was US ambassador to the United Nations from 1971 to 1973, denounced as "offensive and absurd" Iranian suggestions that the downing of Iran Air 655 containing 290 people on July 3 was intentional or reckless.

And he told the world organization "must bear a substantial measure of responsibility for what has happened" by refusing to divert the airliner away from a combat zone.

"There are three ways for Iran to avoid future tragedies," Bush said. "Keep airlines away from combat, stop attacking innocent ships. Or better still, the best way is peace."

He called for Iran to immediately adhere to a UN resolution calling for a cease-fire in the region.

At the same time, the US vice-president said his nation's reaction to the accidental downing of the plane "fills our hearts with sorrow" that "transcends political differences and boundaries."

Aides said that Bush's presentation was written by three or four speechwriters, with most of the ideas for his wording coming from him. The text was co-ordinated with both the State Department and the National Security Council before Bush delivered it, the aides said.

Compassion

Departing from his prepared text, Bush looked across the semicircular council table at Iranian Foreign Minister Ali-Akbar Velayati and said in measured tones, "of course we feel badly about it, of course we have compassion, of course we care."

"The United States has never willfully acted to endanger innocent civilians, nor will it ever," Bush said.

"Contrast this with the willful detention, in inhuman conditions, of Americans and others held hostage against their will. One course is civilized; the other barbaric."

Speaking with reporters aboard Air Force II on his way to New York, Bush said President Ronald Reagan "decided to put some real emphasis on the policy of the United States by elevating the level of representation."

His presentation of the US case to the world forum was one of Bush's most highly visible assignments as vice-president, and it comes just days before Democrats assemble in Atlanta to formally select Michael Dukakis as their presidential nominee.

It was his first speech to the Security Council since he served there, although he addressed the General Assembly in 1986 in a ceremony honouring the UN's 40th anniversary.

Road to slavery and prostitution

Sale of women and children a boom trade

By Anis Ahmed

GILBARI, Bangladesh-India border, (Reuters): Every month hundreds of Bangladeshi women and children are smuggled over the border to India. They are hoping for a better life but many may be headed for slavery and prostitution.

One distraught mother said her eldest daughter had sold six of her other daughters into prostitution in the past two years.

The groups of women and children, up to 150 at a time, move at night, usually guided by traffickers who have enticed them to leave their homes. Some walk up to 10 miles (16 km) and others are ferried across border rivers.

"By daybreak, they will probably cross the border — their first gate to hell," said border guard officer Kazi Hasan Mujib.

"This is a booming business where hundreds of people are smuggled out of the country every month and sold into lives they have never imagined," he said.

Major Mujib, who commands a battalion of Bangladesh Rifles Paramilitary Border Guards, was talking to a Reuters correspondent recently at this border outpost 240 miles (380 km) north-west of Dhaka.

Rescued

The border guards and police have rescued more than 2,000 people, mostly women and children, and arrested 30 traffickers on the border this year.

But thousands more have made it across the border, the major admitted.

"We face so many constraints and lack manpower and resources to stop the illegal trafficking," he said.

Another border commander, Major Nurur Rahman, said the women and children aged from four to 12 were either sold in brothels in India and Pakistan or doomed to a life of slavery.

Arrested Bangladeshi traffickers

say many of the children are sold into slavery in factories and households in India.

Some are transported to similar drugery in Pakistan and the Middle East, they say.

"We are startled by hearing persistently from arrested traffickers that some of the children are trained for a life of crime and some others are killed for kidney transplants," Rahman told Reuters.

Skills

But doctors at Bangladesh's Rajshahi Medical College said kidney transplants required highly efficient medical skills unlikely to be available anywhere except in very modern hospitals.

"We cannot do it in Bangladesh and in the whole of India only a few such facilities are available. The (kidney) transplant charges often made by the traffickers may be just a hoax," surgeon Mohammad Mansooruddin told Reuters.

The border guards recently arrested an alleged Indian trafficker after a long chase through sugarcane fields.

The 30-year-old Indian, who said he lived near Delhi, confessed he and other local traffickers had sold five Bangladeshi girls to brothel keepers in India.

"I married a Bangladeshi girl — six months ago, took her to Delhi and sold her for Indian Rs 2,000 (\$140)," he told Reuters.

"This time I married another — but was arrested while preparing to flee with her," he said.

Extractions

One border officer who did not want to be named said he believed that old men and women were used for corneal extractions while some children were used to supply blood for sale.

Border commander Rahman said the women usually fetched around \$100 each in India but much more in Pakistan or Middle Eastern countries "depend-

ing on their age, complexion and physical build."

The children were sold in India for about \$60 each while prices for old people who were occasionally smuggled across were much lower, officials said.

Officials say abject poverty and unemployment in rural areas of Bangladesh, which has a per capita annual income of \$160, were to blame for the growing trade in women and children.

The traffickers usually prey on women from poor families or those separated from their husbands.

One 27-year-old woman, who was rescued by border guards early this year, said she fled with her brother-in-law, lured by promises of finding a respectable job.

Expulsion of US ambassador

By Bryna Brennan

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, (AP): Perhaps it was a case of escalating pressure on the Sandinista government that led it to take its most dramatic diplomatic move against the United States. Or perhaps it was, as an opposition group suggests, the return of repression or an effort to create a new bargaining chip.

Either explanation was possible for the Sandinistas' dramatic, surprise move ordering the expulsion of ambassador Richard Melton, who departed Tuesday, and seven US embassy diplomats.

Reversal

The administration of US President Ronald Reagan responded in kind, expelling Nicaragua's ambassador and seven other diplomats, and the suggestion even floated in Washington of a possible diplomatic break to come.

Announcing their action Monday, the Sandinistas charged the American diplomats

Nicaragua makes a dramatic move

were behind an anti-government demonstration Sunday that ended with security forces beating civilians and burning tear gas canisters.

The Sandinistas, in a clear reversal of recent democratic reforms, also shut down the Roman Catholic radio station on Monday and suspended the only opposition newspaper, La Prensa, for 15 days.

Police said they detained 43 opposition figures following the Sunday march. The Democratic Co-ordinate, an umbrella group of anti-government organisations and political parties, claimed security agents were rounding up dissidents in various Nicaraguan cities.

The anti-Sandinista group charged that the government was "developing a wave of repression." It also said the crackdown "makes more distant the possibilities of creating an adequate climate of peace and national reconciliation."

A top leader of the opposition Social Christian Party, Adan Fletes, said the government's crackdown on its critics is meant to improve its negotiating position in future peace talks with Nicaraguan rebels.

The expulsion order against the Americans also came after a week of stepped-up Contra rebel attacks that violate an almost 4-month-old cease-fire.

Outrage

The Sandinistas expressed their outrage at the raids by the Contras, backed by the United States, that killed at least eight civilians and several dozen soldiers.

Relations between Nicaragua and the United States have been strained at least since 1981, almost two years after the Sandinistas came to power in July 1979.

Their march into Managua concluded an insurrection that ended 42 years of rule by the rightist, pro-American Somoza dynasty. Many have wondered how

long the facade of diplomatic ties could bear up to the strain of the reality of US-Nicaraguan relations.

The Reagan administration makes no secret of its disdain for the Sandinistas, who in turn hold Washington responsible for seven years of war against the Contras which has cost 26,000 lives and shattered the economy.

During the past seven years, the Reagan administration has financed the Contra rebels in the war to overthrow the Sandinistas and provided other covert support.

The United States cut off aid to Nicaragua in 1981, blocked loans, and enacted a trade embargo in 1985. Bilateral talks to resolve the problems were last held in 1984 despite repeated requests for renewal by the Sandinistas.

Washington claims that the Marxist-led Sandinistas represent a threat to US national security interests by serving as a beachhead for communism and aiding the Marxist rebels fighting the US-backed government in El Salvador.

Nonetheless, the two nations maintain diplomatic relations. The US embassy in Nicaragua frequently entertains opposition figures and handles visa applications.

Almost a year ago, in a move that took Washington off guard, the nations in the region — Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica — signed a plan designed to end civil wars and hostilities among the Central American nations. Nicaragua moved farthest and fastest to comply, although critics say it had the farthest to go.

The government in Managua authorised the return of three exiled priests, permitted several media outlets to reopen, including Radio Católica and La Prensa. In January the government lifted the state-of-emergency that barred many basic freedoms.

We've come a long way, baby

By Enamul Haq

THE women of Bangladesh have come a long way in their struggle to prove themselves a significant force in the nation. They are now a familiar sight in the political arena, administrative tiers, legislative floors, courts of law, seats of higher education, forums of diplomacy, and are also well-represented in challenging professions like medicine, banking, architecture, engineering, journalism and business management.

The emergence of Bangladesh in 1971 opened up new frontiers for its 50 million women. They figured prominently in all planning, under a general consensus that women are crucial to development and social transformation. Voting rights, equal status as citizens, the right to work — these are all embodied in the constitution.

Measures have been taken to draw women into the stream of development and to enable them to participate in all spheres of national life. A separate ministry has been set up to deal with women's affairs; it has generally been headed by a woman minister. To ensure fair representation, a floor of 15 per cent has been imposed in



Bangladesh's health policy places an emphasis on producing primary health care facilities in rural areas.

government and autonomous bodies. In the health and population areas, over sixty per cent of the jobs are held by women.

During the Second Five Year Plan (ended June 1985), it was felt that a dynamic action programme was necessary to fuel more meaningful participation in the development process. Taka 310 million (about US \$10 million) was allocated to 25 projects aimed at achieving this objective. The results include 204 skill

development and production centres which train underprivileged women. More teacher training centres have been opened, with better hostel facilities; for career women, hostels have been set up at the four divisional headquarters. Concern for the welfare of women has been reflected more fully in the Third Five Year Plan (1985-1990). In the health sector, for example, rural health services for women are to be established; maternal and child healthcare, family planning, nutrition, immunisation, family health education and sanitation are to be major components. About 21,000 field workers are offering family planning, maternity and child-care services to women in 1225

rural family welfare centres; these figures are expected to increase substantially in the course of the plan period. Voluntary agencies, domestic and foreign, play a significant role in this area.

Expand
Steps have been taken to accelerate and expand educational facilities. The third plan has given priority to education of rural women. Places are reserved for women in schools and colleges throughout the country while talented women are awarded special grants as well as scholarships.

In the employment field, the objective is to ensure equal opportunities for women workers and to facilitate their

integration into the labour force. To encourage participation by rural women, programmes have been set up to allow them to start home-based production. They are thus able to learn new skills in a familiar environment and contribute to the family income at the same time. Uprooting women from the countryside for jobs in distant industrial areas would ruin their family life and break the traditional bonds of understanding on which their society is based.

The Third Plan has allocated Taka 500 million (about US \$16 million) for women's uplift projects. Another Taka 160 million (US \$5 million) is expected from non-governmental organisations. Major projects include the establishment of skill development, training and production centres, daycare centres for the children of working mothers, more hostels for career women, the strengthening of women's and children's academies, and training and rehabilitation centres for socially handicapped women.

Protect

Stringent laws have been enacted over the years to protect women from oppression and the ancient dowry system which alone is responsible for the destruction of thousands of homes. The minimum age at which girls may get married has been raised from 16 to 18. Early marriage led to a higher birth rate and cut short their education. Important amendments have been made to Muslim family laws, making it difficult for men to take more than one wife, and facilitating speedy adjudication of family disputes. Munsif courts right down to the upazila level have been given the jurisdiction of family courts so that men and women of small means do not have to travel too far to seek justice. Family disputes can also be taken to counselling boards at the village and union levels. Under the government's new programme for distribution of state land to landless and subsistence level peasants, care has been taken to ensure that legal ownership goes to both husband and wife.

A blessing in disguise

By Saffron Davies

THERE'S no getting away from it: women are fat creatures. If your bathroom scales tip 60 kg, then about 18 of those kilograms are accounted for by body fat. In fact, the average woman is made up of approximately 30 per cent fat compared with a typical figure for men of only 15-20 per cent. The battle against the blubber is the curse of many women. And yet, it looks as though the absolute amount of body fat is an important fertility factor; too little of it and women become infertile.

Now, it was unlikely that Neolithic peoples had much idea about body composition, but they may well have been aware that fat ladies, particularly those well built around the hips, buttocks and breasts, tended to have less difficulty in having children. This would explain why fertility symbols, dating as far back as the Stone Age, were often figurines of women typically endowed with a good coating of fat.

Study

Strangely, this historical linking of fatness and fertility actually makes a lot of biological sense. For a girl to begin and then maintain her normal menstrual cycles throughout her reproductive years, she must have a threshold level of body fat. Excessive dieting, or its more extreme form of anorexia nervosa, can result in a loss of menstrual cycles and reversible infertility. Normal cycles will only start again when an appropriate amount of fat has been accumulated.

This is not simply a question of body weight, because the same loss of fertility happens to athletes undergoing intense training. They may not be thin, nor underweight but they sacrifice their fatty tissues and build up their muscles instead. Menstrual cycles either stop or become very irregular.

A careful study of a female bodybuilder highlighted this phenomenon perfectly. She does not run, jog or dance but concentrates on building up her muscles with exercise machines. When she is in

The battle against the blubber is the curse of many women. And yet, it seems, the absolute amount of body fat is an important fertility factor; too little of it and women become infertile.

"shape" for a competition her periods stop, despite her rippling muscles and strength. In between times, when exercise is less intense and a few pounds of fat are laid down, her periods resume.

This somewhat obscure dependence of fertility on body fat is a fact which was more or less stumbled upon. Back in the early Seventies, Rose Frisch and her colleague, Roger Revelle, at Harvard University were gathering information about heights, weights and calorie supplies of communities in Asia and Latin America. They were trying to estimate the world's food requirements.

While analysing all the information, they found that the age at which girls had their most rapid growth in weight (an event preceding the first menstruation or menarche) was dependent on a girl's weight rather than age. In other words, girls from communities with poor nutritional standards had a later growth spurt and menarche compared with heavier girls with a good calorie supply.

Principle

That, perhaps, was not so surprising but when they found that during the growth spurt most girls more than doubled their body fat (with a much smaller increase in lean mass), they began to suspect that fat may be the vital clue.

After many years of careful study this has proved to be so. Adolescent girls need at least 17 per cent of their body weight in fat before they can start menstruating. Hence, very thin girls, young athletes, dancers and the like, are often quite late in starting their periods. The same principle applies to

adults when ovulatory cycles or menstruation stops because of dieting or intense training. However, in order to get their cycles going again, fat stores must build up to over 20 per cent of their body weight. An extra amount, which would correspond to the further growth that normally takes place between menarche and 18 years of age. At this stage, reproductive functions have usually reached full maturity.

Sometimes, this dependency of fertility on fatness is so finely balanced that a woman need only gain or lose one or two kilograms before her menstrual cycles are switched on or off accordingly. Such dependency does go a long way towards explaining the enormous variations in human fertility seen in populations that do not use any form of contraception.

For example, the hard living nomads of the Kalahari desert produce an average of four children compared with the well-nourished Hilleries in the US (a non-contraceptive religious sect) who average 11.

It may be presumptuous to assume that this difference in the number of offspring is totally related to body fat. However, poorly fed women tend to have prolonged periods of infertility while they are feeding their infants; presumably due to their depleted fat reserves. Not so with women with good fat stores. They can conceive again very soon after the birth of a child, irrespective of whether or not they are breast feeding. Good nutrition keeps their fat levels above the critical point of 20 per cent of their body weight.

So what is so special about fat? Obviously evolution has endowed women with comparatively large fat stores as a reserve of extra energy for pregnancy and lactation. Part of the survival principle. Yet this does not really explain why women can lose their fertility simply through shedding a few pounds of fat.

The answer seems to lie in the fact that fat tissues store sex hormones. When fatty tissues are at a low ebb they convert their stores of sex hormones into oestrogens with low biological activity.



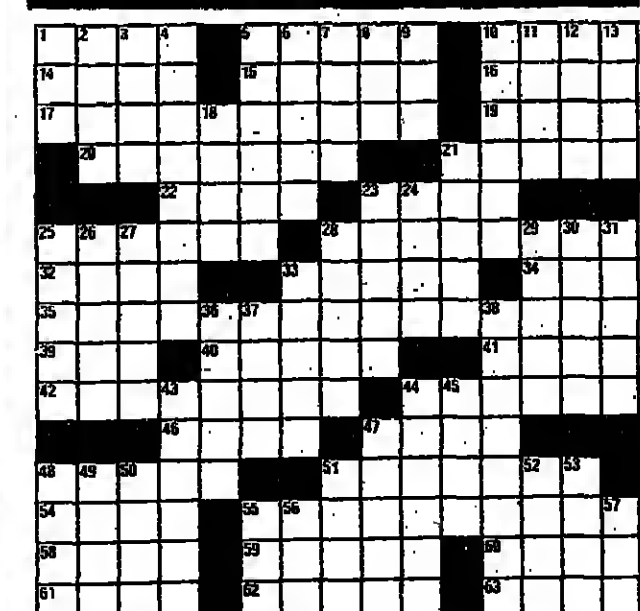
Educating women is part of the family planning programme.



Begum Khaleda Zia (left) and Sheikh Hasina Wajed (right), leader of the two main opposition parties, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and the Awami League respectively.



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Catch sight of
 - Krakow natives
 - Yearn
 - Nevada tourist cantai
 - Puccini work
 - Cabbaga salad
 - Some aviators' talent
 - Rational
 - Baras
 - Valuable turs
 - Limited
 - Andy's pal
 - Tried out
 - Part of AFL
 - Engrave
 - Cheer up
 - Biblical lion
 - With no restrictions
 - Legged it fast
 - Pierce Arrows
 - Aeria
 - West Indies islands
 - Annie —
 - Fortuna-teller
 - the word
 - Scottish dances
 - Indicates
 - Wood-dressing tool
 - High-rise structure
 - Jazz trumpeter
 - AI
 - Singer Della
 - Emperor or pianist
 - The Seven —
 - Warhol and others
 - Legal document
- DOWN**
- Grads-to-be: Abbr.
 - Lapdog, for short
 - Variety of chalcidony
 - Tracks by a canal
 - Showing composure
 - Chose
 - Hilo gartands
 - Sea eagle
 - Drone
 - St. Francis of —
 - Scottish family unit
 - Baseball great
 - Aaron
 - Woolly animals
 - Lasso
 - Edible mushroom
 - Oriental nannies
 - Dole out
 - Aquarium fish
 - Revolutionary soldier
 - Allen
 - Aroma
 - Choir members
 - Desert transport
 - Stand up
 - gritty
 - Organic compound
 - Certain cabbages
 - Christmas object, of yore
 - Keys
 - Weight units
 - God of love
 - Disorderly
 - Stadium sounds
 - An Adams
 - 50 A Pound
 - Changed the color of
 - Fencer's sword
 - Witharad
 - Mexican Mrs.
 - Writer Kesey
 - Baton

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MAT RASP SHARI
EMIR EMMA HABIT
SARI BOIS IDOLS
THEFOURTHOFJULY
ASSERT HART
ASK ISOBAR
WAAC ARGO RAGE
REDWHITEANDBLUE
ARDE NEXT ESTE
DETENT EAT
ERSE SENATE
STARSANDSTRIPES
CADET ISIE CART
ALENE DEAR ERNE
TENOR ELMS TEE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q874 ♥85 ♦KJ102 ♣953

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♥ ?

What do you bid now?
A.—Make the same bid you would have made had there been no interference—a raise to two spades. If you elect to pass, you might find that by the time the bidding gets back to you it is at an uncomfortably high level, and you won't know whether or not to compete.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠QJ74 ♥9 ♦A10762 ♣953

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♥ ?

What do you bid now?
A.—You have limited defensive capabilities but great offensive potential. Had East not interposed a bid, you would have jumped to four spades. Make the same bid now.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠985 ♥QJ762 ♦83 ♣A93

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♥ 1 ♣ ?

What action do you take?
A.—Although partner's jump to two no trump is not forcing, just highly invitational, you should not pass unless you have a sub-minimum response. Here, you are full value for your bid. Since your hand is balanced, don't rebid your hearts. Simply raise to three no trump.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KJ62 ♥Q103 ♦AJ983 ♣5

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♥ 1 ♣ ?

What do you bid now?
A.—In support of spades, your hand revalues to 14 points. Since the equivalent of an opening bid facing an opening should be enough for game, jump to four spades. Don't bid only three spades; that would be invitational, and partner might pass with a minimum.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠8 ♥A1076 ♦KJ854 ♣J93

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 ♣ Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—Although partner has responded to your Stayman inquiry with the "wrong" major, he could hold a four-card heart suit as well. For the moment show partner that you have game-going values with a heart suit by jumping to three no trump. If partner does have hearts as well, he will correct to four hearts.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KJ7 ♥J6 ♦K6 ♣AQJ873

The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♣ Pass

What action do you take?
A.—We think you are worth one try, and we have a sneaky admiration for those who bark out three no trump without giving a thought to the heart situation or worrying about losing a partial when the no trump game fails. We would bid three spades, and hope that partner has the sort of heart holding that would permit him to convert to three no trump.



"Mum, where did you learn all these things you keep warning me about?"



"Hello, George, hello, Mary, didn't you hear us knocking?"

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 21 - April 18)

You will be able to persuade others to do as you wish. However you should not be too demanding. Your private life will take a turn for the better. Be considerate.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will be able to spend the day in pleasant company. Make sure that you pay your fair share. Avoid saying anything you do not really mean. Be more attentive.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Your personal affairs will make somewhat better progress. Avoid getting into an argument. Make sure you do not eat too many fatty or sweet things. Be decisive.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You should avoid gloomy thoughts — cheer up. Try not to make a difficult situation even worse. Refrain from clutching at straws. Be more polite.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You should make yourself a little more approachable instead of retreating into yourself. Listen carefully to what others have to say. By all means relax but do not allow your attention to wander too far.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will feel easily irritated and should keep out of the way of arguments. You should try to take a little more interest in what is happening around you. Do not say everything that is on your mind.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

At first there will be a degree of uncertainty but soon you will see your way more clearly. You will be able to meet someone very much to your liking. Remember that variety is the spice of life. Be benevolent.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

The prospects are quite good but you should not expect too much. Make sure you have considered the alternatives carefully before deciding on what to do. Do not suffer fools gladly. Be moderate.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

The Moon's better influence in conjunction with that of Mercury will help you to sort out a personal problem. You will be successful with something that has been on your mind.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Some relatively small matter will cause you considerable concern. Mars' influence will however help you to deal with it. Do not be too swayed by events. Be positive.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will find it easier to make up your mind. You should try not to get between a friend and his partner. A little more goodwill will go a very long way. Be tolerant.



Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

You should not take any new commitments just now if you can help it. Do not allow yourself to be affected too much by what you read in the papers.

Ilocano youth join pro-Marcos group

A BIG group of Ilocano youth have initially enlisted with the militant Civilian Marcos Loyalist (CML) organization, in what could be a closing of ranks of pro-Marcos supporters in Ilocos region and Metro Manila.

The affiliation rites were held recently at the spot near the Laoag International Airport where the CML had pitched camp the past 34 days to demand the reopening of the airport.

Declaring "if the giant is sleeping, the children are not," the Ilocano youth vowed to take more active role in Loyalist movements anywhere in the country.

This move was a reaction of the youth group to misgivings expressed by Manila loyalists that many Ilocanos elders especially former friends and cronies were foot dragging and less vocal fighting a Marcos cause.

The mass induction of Ilocano youngsters was witnessed by former presidential assistant to then Pres. Marcos, Lito Gorospe and CML national president Anthony Santos.

Youth leaders Edwin Factora and Manny Agustin declared that thousands more of Ilocano youths both in and out of school, would march around Laoag City in a show of force and motivation.

Ilocos Norte CML president Rudy Peruchio said his group planning a big march with the participation of its town and barangay unit chapters.

CML national president Anthony Santos said their organization approved the Ilocano youth's affiliation to help them become great assets of their region by way of instilling awareness and consciousness.

Santos said their membership will be just like any other school club, only this time they will not only be concerned with their school's affairs but the entire nation's.

The council of leaders of the CML, meanwhile, announced the appointment of engineer-businessman Rodolfo Peruchio as president for Ilocos Norte.

Peruchio prior to his appointment was president of the CML Cabeza chapter in Laoag City.

MNLF rebels surrender

A TOTAL of 337 foreign-trained fighters of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front under Nur Misuari have surrendered in Tawi-tawi.

Defense Undersecretary Eduardo Ermita, who received the surrenders during a visit to that southernmost province recently said that the government is expecting 700 secessionist rebels to give themselves up in the next few months.

Ermita said the surrender is significant in that it could mean the secessionist movement is "crumbling." He said the rebels told him they have not been getting financial and logistical support to sustain their struggle.

The MNLF secessionists are divided into three factions — Misuari's being considered by the military as the strongest.

The rebels, led by MNLF commander Hatih Gumahali, will be allowed to avail themselves of the government's amnesty programme.

Ermita said the provincial government of Tawi-tawi, in co-ordination with the military, has begun processing the papers of the surrenders. They will be given medical treatment, accommodation and possible means of livelihood.

PCGG to investigate missing Jai Alai funds

THE Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) is set to start an investigation into reports that former Commodore Alfredo "Bejo" Romualdez, brother of former First Lady Imelda Marcos, pocketed P76 million of Jai Alai proceeds when he still headed its operations.

The funds, which Romualdez allegedly deposited in a Metro Manila bank before his sister fled to Hawaii with defunct President Marcos two years ago, is missing since the PCGG took over the Philippine Jai Alai and Amusement Corporation, Inc.

A PCGG official directly involved in the sequestration of the PJAC told reporters that a special stockholders' meeting will be called "anytime now" to elect a new board of directors.

The official, who spoke on condition he is not identified, said PCGG fiscal agents may be involved in hiding the missing Jai Alai funds, and in other anomalies at the PJAC.

Guns become a necessity in the Philippines

Terror stalks Manila streets

By Criselda Yabes

MANILA, (Reuters): Philippine Congresswoman Lorna Yap keeps gold and diamond jewellery on her bedroom dresser. Nearby, she keeps a closet full of guns.

As right-wing death squads, communist rebels and common criminals daily spill blood on Manila's streets, many Filipinos now look on a gun as a necessary safety precaution.

"For as long as the military is not able to explain why the killers have not been caught, I will continue to keep my guns," Yap said in an interview.

Guns are part of daily life in the Philippines.

Security guards at buildings tote sawn-off shotguns. Supermarket shoppers and coffee-shop patrons sometimes carry a pistol in their belts, sports shops sell holsters and specially designed shoulder bags with space for ammunition.

Many clubs, shops and cinemas see nothing unusual in displaying signs at their doors asking customers to "please deposit firearms and other weapons with the security guard."

The military estimates there are at least 400,000 "loose," or unregistered, firearms and tens of thousands more carried legally.

President Corason Aquino's only son, Benigno, wounded during a coup attempt last year, these days takes part in shooting tournaments with his .45 pistol.

Jejomar Binay, mayor of Manila's financial and diplomatic Makati district, carries a Ger-



Congresswoman Lorna Yap, still all dressed up after a day at the office, prepares to fire her favourite Uzi machine pistol in an underground sound-proof firing range in her suburban home.

man-made Walther PPK, James Bond's trademark, in his pocket.

Binay, nicknamed "Rambo" for his display of weapons, subscribes to the view that a gun offers security in modern Manila.

"If you know your enemies have guns, you must also have them just in case... sort of like a

balance of terror," Binay said.

Congressman last year voted himself special authority to import the latest in personal handguns.

Local politicians are often accused of stockpiling weapons for their own private armies.

The Philippines has its own gun-making industry but the

popular obsession with firearms has boosted gun-running.

Each month at Manila's international airport officials seize dozens of pistols and rifles together with thousands of rounds of ammunition concealed in boxes of dirty clothes, fruit crates and even sardine cans.

Military sources said soldiers

themselves were widely believed to be behind the gun-running business, as well as influential politicians and businessmen.

A .45 pistol bought in the United States for 450 dollars will fetch three times the price on Manila's black market.

The recent spate of political killings in Manila's streets has prompted calls for controls and moves to, as the local press put it, "deglamorise the cult of the gun."

"It is high time something was done about loose guns," the conservative Manila Times said in an editorial.

At the height of last year's bloody coup attempt, Congresswoman Yap lugged her Uzi machine-gun into the lower house chamber amid a storm of criticism.

"Neither my husband nor my bodyguards were around," she explained with a shrug.

A sharpshooter in her spare time, Yap shares her passion for guns with her husband, Colonel Adelberto Yap, Aquino's former chief aide-de-camp. She said their collection ranges from a .32 pistol to a grenade launcher.

Underneath their two-storey suburban home, the Yaps built a sound-proof firing range where the Congresswoman practices with her favourite Uzi machine pistol.

"Guns belong to a world of their own," the Congresswoman said as she flicked on the light in her wardrobe, revealing an array of guns and accessories.

"It's just being practical. I just can't throw them away... they're like jewellery," she said.

ASEAN proposes aid package

By Chay O. Florentino

THE Philippines will need \$8-\$10 billion in foreign aid the next four years to ease poverty and unemployment, said a statement circulated recently among foreign ministers of ASEAN and its major trading partners.

The statement was issued by the Philippines in Bangkok at the opening of three days of annual talks between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and its "partners."

The international aid plan, also called the "polysectoral programme" for the Philippines will be taken up between the ministers of Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, on the one hand, and their counterparts from Japan, Australia, United States, New Zealand Canada, and the European Community, on the other.

Poverty

The statement said the Philippines needs the \$10-billion additional development aid to bring down to 45 per cent the number of Filipino families living below the poverty line, absorb 750,000 new workers into the labour force, and reduce the current 2.1 million unemployed by 1992.

In order not to aggravate its debt service problem, the government hopes that "the bulk of the assistance can come in the form of grants or with much improved terms over official development assistance," the statement said.

It also said the Philippines hopes for "maximum flexibility" in determining use of the funds in a "mix of programme, project support and debt relief" channels.

The Philippines is faced with a \$28.6-billion foreign debt whose servicing eats up 40 per cent of the government's annual budget.

In the past two years, the Philippines has reversed the contraction of its economy and registered positive growth. The country's gross national product grew by 5.7 per cent and 7.6 per cent in the first quarter of this year.

The Philippine statement stressed the urgency of the aid package. "We race against time. The insurgency movement is related to rural and urban poverty. It loses ground as visible improvements take place in poverty alleviation. It will continue to grow if the people become impatient with the pace of progress."

The Philippines, according to the statement, also opts for self-reliance and a reduced dependence on external resources in the future as a result of the aid programme.

President Aquino has created a high level task force made up of Cabinet members, representatives of Congress and the private sector to study how the additional aid package would be put to use.

The Philippines is finalizing "integrated packages of high impact, high visibility projects" in each region which can be used to show the effectiveness of the programme, the statement said.

The projects planned for each region consist of the development of roads, ports, telecommunications and power. Besides providing capital, donor countries can also extend technical assistance.

The proposed aid package for the Philippines got a boost when Asean foreign ministers in a final joint communiqué called for its immediate implementation.

Star chooses career over school

By Pete Ampoloquio, Jr

AMONG the male newcomers that abound the local entertainment scene, Dingdong Avanzado, is one of the most promising. He's not only versatile but electrifying as well. Kaya naman marami talaga ang naiiangit at nang-iintriga sa kanya, the guy being the possible successor of Gary Valenciano when you speak of audience impact, showmanship and rapport.

Unknown to most of his immense followers, galing sa isang buena familia si Dingdong. He comes from a family of politicians, lawyers and doctors. Kaya naman apprehensive talaga ang kanyang mga magulang, her mom, most especially, nang mag-decide siyang pasukin ang showbusiness. Marami kasi silang nahahatiang tungkol rito at karamihan ay pawang negative.

"My mom, at first, really didn't like the idea of you, know, her eldest son entering showbusiness. It's kind of magulo raw kasi and she was quite apprehensive that I wouldn't be able to finish my studies. I was a third year Political Science student kasi in La Salle-Taft before I entered showbusiness," elucidates Dingdong. "But I love showbusiness and I really enjoy it here and so far naman, I'm doing quite well."

Ibig sabihin ba nito'y naging supportive na ang kanyang mga parents lately? "Yeah," he avers. "They're quite supportive now. Nakita naman kasi nilang hindi nasayang ang efforts ko. I may not be reigning star of the hour but I'd like to think that I'm slowly realizing my goal."

Started

Dingdong started his singing career May of last year when he auditioned for a possible part of the singing group New Minstrels. He was fortunately accepted but he left the group after a month for he felt then that his studies were, by far, more important than his looming singing career.

At this point in his life when his career is doing adequately well, the chunky-eyed singer candidly admits that he's missing school and the campus life that goes with it. "But I've got no choice," he reasons out. "I have already invested a lot of time in here and



Dingdong Avanzado: I may not be the reigning star of the hour but I'm slowly realizing my goal.

for me, it's not just but a lark or an expensive pastime. Honestly, I intend to make out of it a career. The school may be a good institution but it always can wait. The same thing cannot be said with a showbiz career though. It only comes once in a lifetime and I intend to make the most out of it."

This early nagiging biktima na rin si Dingdong ng mga intriga. Isa na nga rito ang paniligaw niya sa dalagita ni Joey de Leon na kung paniniwalaan mo ang mga bali-bali'ta ay masyado raw against sa kanya dahil ayaw raw nginang malahian ng pandak ang kanilang lahi. Asked to comment about it, he's simply non-committal.

"It would be nice si guro if we talk about other things na lang," he coyly says. "I hope you do understand."

Tall

Well, kung gayan ba naman ka-sweet at ka-gentle ang makikiusap sa 'yo, hakit ang hindi? We're no sadist after all and we do — understand everything about human nature.

But in fairness naman kay Dingdong hindi naman si guro isang pandak since he stands five feet six inches naman when

barefooted and for a Filipino, that's not really bad. Kung si Janno nga ay wala pa'yatang five four pero hindi siya tinatawag na bomsai, ba't naman nila gagan-unin yong tao? One thing more, sa showbusiness naman, it's the talent that's first and foremost at secondary na lang bale ang height at iba pang bagay.

Kaya kung totoo ngang mag-on na sila ng unica bika nina Joey at Daria Ramirez, dapat pa nga silang matuwa dahil may breeding itong magiging manugang nila kung sa-ka-sakali't galing pa nga sa matatawag na buena familia.

Sa ngayon nga pala ay patuloy pa rin si Dingdong sa pagpromote ng kanyang latest single entitled Here I Am, a composition actually of his bossom friend Ronnie Raymond and Cousin Edward. As compared to his first na medyo fast ang beat, ballad naman ito at so far ay maganda naman raw ang feedback. Isang bagay na hindi dapat pagtakhan dahil maganda naman talagang interpretation dito ng aung hinata.

In the near future, he dreams of penetrating the movies also but he says it would have to be a wholesome role. But at the moment, he'd rather concentrate on his singing career and the beautiful things that it has to offer.

Filipino maids to be allowed into US

AMERICAN military and civilian personnel assigned in the Philippines are now allowed to take their Filipino maids with them to the United States.

A US embassy message circulated on Subic naval base said US Immigration and Naturalization Service Regulations now permit US government personnel and certain American private citizens, who are regularly working in the Philippines but are assigned in the US for periods of no more than four years at a time, to employ Filipino domestics while they are in the US.

The message said these Filipino domestics may enter the US on business (B-L) visas. The visa will be annotated "domestic

employment of US military member (or US citizens business person) on assignment in US for less than four years."

A domestic employee will be required to present a valid passport, a filled-up non immigrant visa application form with one identification photo, and evidence that he or she has been employed by an American for more than six months and that he or she had at least one paid experience as a domestic help.

Also, a copy of employer's official transfer orders or other documentation indicating transfer to the US for a specific period of time should be presented when applying for a visa.

Top teams vie for basketball title

THOUSANDS of Filipinos in Kuwait will surely miss Kapilku's "Batakan ng Buto '88," this year's most glamorous and well attended sports festival when it finally concludes on July 29, 1988 with a special awarding ceremony, immediately after the basketball championship match.

After more than two months of gruelling but exciting matches in all nine major events — Basketball, bowling, lawn tennis, table tennis, dart, chess, dama, volleyball, and marathon — with fewer than 500 players representing 40 teams from different companies, the stage is now set to determine this year's champions.

With only the stronger teams remaining in each event, the fun and excitement is expected to shift to full gear as all teams will vie for the title on a knock-out system beginning this Friday July 22, to be followed by another match on Sunday July 24, and finally on July 29 just before the scheduled awarding ceremonies.

Provides

Kapilku's 7th Annual Palaroo Filipino Mini-Olympics is not only a showcase of the finest Filipino athletes we have in Kuwait but most importantly provides the majority of Filipinos in Kuwait with the kind of recreation and entertainment they'll have been missing back home. For the thousands of regular spectators who have seen most of the games in all events, the thrill and excitement does not actually end in watching an exciting match. There is also the entertainment of a live band as well as raffle draws in intermissions.

Basketball, being the premier sport of Filipinos, is expected to draw again full house crowd at Kuffan Gym beginning this Friday. All four strong teams: AG&P, Pinoy Restaurant, Mabuhay Restaurant, and KPBC are evenly matched against each other and the team who wins the highest number of games via a single round robin basis will automatically romp off with the title. In case of a tie a quotient system will be applied. AG&P, the only Ambassador's Cup holder for winning the title for three consecutive years, for



Action shot from one of the qualifying matches.

one will be relying heavily on its deadly first five stringers — Villones, Fuentes, Bacalagan, Narvaez, and Castro. The hefty play and shifty ball-handling of Villones, the firepower of Narvaez, and the towering height of Castro are some of the main assets of the team. On the other hand, Pinoy Restaurant, the dark horse this year, has a deeper bench with all players having their own distinctive talents in basketball. The rebounding power of Lugo off the boards, the driving force of Repollo & Garcia are factors to reckon with for this team. The same is true for the Mahuhay Restaurant team. Having the tallest players in the league, based on average height, is surely an added advantage. Not only do they have height, the combined team efforts of Reyes, Corpus, Babiera and Dingson are enough to lift the team throughout their championship matches. And last but not the least is the KPBC team, the 1977 and reigning titleholder with still an intact players on their bench. Not only do they have excellent cohesiveness due to years of playing together but the team has style. The magnificent ballhandling of last year's MVP Countess Dela Cruz, foxy style of Manuel off the boards, long tom shooting of



Cartoon illustration of a man in a suit saying "SER, AM REDETU GU TU DAH ISTITS!"

1st Runner-up

Women's basketball: Al Jahra Hospital/Al Ghanim Freight — Champion; Al Adan Hospital/Fisher — 1st Runner-up

Dama:

Atlanta, Gulf & Pacific Co. (AG&P) — Champion; RLC — 1st Runner-up

Lawn tennis:

A. Men's singles: Gulf Paper Mfg. Co. — Champion; Atlantic, Gulf & Pacific Co. (AG&P) — 1st Runner-up; EEMC — 2nd Runner-up; Shuaiba Area Authority — 3rd Runner-up

B. Men's doubles: EEMC — Champion; Gulf Paper Mfg. Co. — 1st Runner-up; Shuaiba Port — 2nd Runner-up; KAI & Associates, Inc. — 3rd Runner-up

C. Ladies singles: Sally Rios — Champion; Elor Gumbon — 1st Runner-up; Marian Ambas — 2nd Runner-up; Willa Aloy — 3rd Runner-up

Dart:

Pinoy Restaurant — Champion; Kirby Bldg. System — 1st Runner-up; RLC — 2nd Runner-up; Al Faez Est. — 3rd Runner-up

Women's bowling:

Mabuhay Restaurant — Champion; Oriental Trading-Diplomats — 1st Runner-up; Al Ghanim Freight — 2nd Runner-up; Crowns Trading Est. — 3rd Runner-up

Marathon

3 km race: S. Bonto (TAG&P) — Champion; W. Nolasco (Sonny) — 1st Runner-up; A. Escobedo (AG&P) — 2nd Runner-up; B. Bonto (Kawit Leather) — 3rd Runner-up

5 km race: G. Barredo (AG&P) — Champion; F. Cane (AG&P) — 1st Runner-up; B. Argonnes (RLC) — 2nd Runner-up; E. Maglano (AG&P) — 3rd Runner-up

10 km race: G. Bona (KPBC) — Champion; A. Factor (AG&P) — 1st Runner-up; G. Canata (AG&P) — 2nd Runner-up

Schedule of matches for the championship rounds:

Friday July 22

Table tennis — Championship match for both men's & ladies singles will be played on the hardcourt from 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Men's volleyball: 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm — AG&P vs. RLC

Men's basketball: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm — KPBC vs. Mabuhay Restaurant; 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm — AG&P vs. Pinoy Restaurant

Sunday, July 24

Table tennis — Championship match for both men's & ladies doubles will be played on the hardcourt from 8:30 am to 11:30 am

Men's basketball: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm — loser vs. loser; 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm — winner vs. winner. Note: Names of teams to be published prior to playing date.

Friday, July 29

8:00 am - 10:00 am — ARABTEL vs. Wood Group Engineering Ltd. (For the "Most Promising Team Award"), 10:00 am - 12:00 noon — A vs. B; 12:00 noon - 2:00 pm C vs. D. Note: Names of teams to be published prior to playing date.

2:00 pm — Start of the awarding ceremonies for all events.

Winners and champions of other completed events are the following:

Women's Volleyball: Al Adan Hospital/Fisher — Champion; Al Jahra Hospital/Al Ghanim Freight — 1st Runner-up



ENRICO Wallenda (top) and his wife Debbie execute a mid-air crossover without net while suspended some 75 feet above the Circus Parade public show grounds in Milwaukee, USA. (Reuter wirephoto).



THE Rev. Jesse Jackson receives a warm welcome from a young fan after his bus stopped in Nashville on Friday en route to the Democratic National Convention in Atlanta. (Reuter wirephoto)



MAHMOUD Nour Al Deen, accused of leading an underground Egyptian revolutionary organisation, enters a state security court yesterday to appeal for release from prison until trial in October. (Reuter wirephoto)



CHILDREN play in the sea, ignoring unconfirmed reports that the Lebanese sea-shore is polluted with toxic waste. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE official insignia of the NASA STS 27 mission was released on Thursday. The insignia depicts the space shuttle's return to manned space flight. The design also commemorates the memory of the Challenger crew, represented by the seven stars. The STS 27 mission is scheduled for launch in October, 1988. (Reuter wirephoto)

17th OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

LEADER BOARD

HOLE	PAR	PLAYER	SCORE
35	4	PRICE	137
34	4	BALLSBERGOS	138
33	4	FALDO	140
32	4	STABLER	140
31	4	BEAN	141
30	4	TRAY	142
29	4	LYCE	142
28	4	COUPLES	142
27	4	GREEN	142



SPECTATORS at the British Open golf championships sit under umbrellas beneath the leader board during the third round of the tournament yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



CHICAGO Park District employee Robert Walkowicz shows how his plastic-tubing barrier will contain small pools to soak tree roots. (Reuter wirephoto)



RAISA Gorbachev, wife of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, lays flowers at the foot of the 'Wall of Death' during a visit to the former Nazi death camp at Auschwitz in southern Poland on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Economy stronger than expected

Fed chief keeps them guessing on Wall Street

NEW YORK, July 16, (AP): Alan Greenspan has made his intentions clear to Wall Street: The US Federal Reserve either will, or will not, tighten credit further in the weeks ahead.

Making his midsummer appearance before a congressional committee on Wednesday, the Central Bank chairman expressed a goodly measure of concern about the prospect of increased inflation in the United States if economic growth begins to strain the capacity of production facilities and the labour force.

As a result, he said, the Federal Reserve "might be well advised to err more on the side of restrictiveness rather than of stimulus."

At the same time, however, he said higher interest rates were not inevitable, and indicated he was in no rush to raise the discount rate — the rate the Federal Reserve charges on loans to private financial institutions, and one of its most visible tools for influencing trends in money and credit.

The next morning, a headline in one major newspaper declared "Greenspan signals higher interest rates," while another reported, "Greenspan sees stable rates."

All in a day's work for Wall Street's watchers. The job description for the top job at the Federal Reserve stresses the ability to talk before Congress

for long periods of time without saying much of anything.

Some find this sort of thing offensive, arguing that an organisation with as much power as the Federal Reserve should be more accountable to the citizenry and their elected representatives in a democracy.

Credit

But defenders of the present way of doing things say that whoever speaks for the Central Bank is obliged to choose his words carefully, if only because of the financial markets' tendency toward emotional overreaction.

In order to pursue its policies effectively, they say, the Federal Reserve must keep a close eye on

how the bond market, in particular, is behaving.

Suppose, for example, that it sought to ease credit and lower interest rates in circumstances that bond traders saw as potentially inflationary. They would then tend to push interest rates up, not down.

The stock market behaved through the past week as if it had learned nothing startlingly new about the bank's intentions. Prices meandered in a narrow range, and the Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks closed on Friday at 2,129.45, up 23.30 points from the week before.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose .84 to 153.65; the Nasdaq com-

posite index for the over-the-counter market gained .26 to 394.59; and the American Stock Exchange market value index increased .29 to 309.31.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 175.20 million shares a day, against 163.40 in the previous week.

As circumspect as he was about the future, Greenspan did confirm that the Federal Reserve took a series of steps during the spring toward tighter credit when it became increasingly clear that the economy was stronger than expected.

"Scepticism about the Fed's resolve to resist inflationary pressures persists," observed David Resler, economist at

Nomura Securities International, in a midyear appraisal of the outlook.

"Many suspect that the Fed will be too slow to take necessary action against inflation during the election year."

However, Resler said, "the three credit tightening moves that the Fed took over an eight-week span in the second quarter ought to assuage fears that the Fed will not respond quickly and decisively to inflation pressures whenever they surface."

"Moreover, the financial markets' hypersensitivity to signs of inflation renders fruitless any attempts to steer the economy along an unwarranted growth path."

OPEC urged to push up prices by reducing output

NICOSIA, July 16, (Reuters): Iran called on all oil producing countries today to push up prices by reducing output.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the call was made by Oil Minister Gholamreza Aghazadeh in an interview with the station.

It also quoted him as saying the 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) should abide by its decisions and avoid bringing bilateral quarrels to the group.

Co-operation

The minister called for co-operation between OPEC and non-OPEC oil producers but accused Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE of undermining the market by ignoring OPEC decisions.

Meanwhile, OPEC secretary-general Dr Subroto believes that OPEC will be entering "dangerous terrain" if its members allowed themselves to take unilateral decisions regarding production matters.

He was speaking to a correspondent of "Deutsche Welle", the external service of the West German Radio on Tuesday about his forthcoming visit to the UAE.

All OPEC members were concerned about overproduction, he added.

Subroto is also to deliver a letter from OPEC conference president Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman to UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

He said he would like to discuss, while in the emirates, the long and short-term effects of national production policies on the world oil market.

Quotas

Hestated that OPEC members did not have output "quotas", but "temporary production levels" and, therefore, an agreement on "production ceilings" did not prejudice the future possibility of allocating permanent quotas to member countries.

Expressing concern about the president downward trend in oil prices, Subroto said this was no more than "simple economics".

"If there is more oil on the market, the price goes down. We want to see better prices, but that also means that production will have to be reduced."

He said all countries which were now overproducing, regardless of whether they were OPEC or non-OPEC, should practise restraint.

Calling for better understanding between OPEC and non-OPEC producers, Subroto said he hoped for a more permanent relationship between the two producer groups.

"Although there are problems, the political will for co-operation is there," he said.

He expressed confidence that OPEC and non-OPEC would ultimately come to an agreement or an understanding to co-operate, "hopefully, next year."

He said although, at present, Iraq was not a signatory to the OPEC production and price agreement, as an OPEC member country it still had the moral obligation to co-ordinate its oil policies in accordance with the interest of its fellow members of the organisation.

Loan agreement

THE World Bank and a group of 55 Japanese regional banks signed an eight-year loan agreement totalling 15 billion yen (\$119 million) this week in Tokyo.

The loan carries 5.5 per cent interest a year, payable semi-annually, and matures on June 10, 1996. The Bank of Yokohama is lead manager and agent for the loan.

Iraq has a strong oil industry

BAGHDAD, July 16, (OPECNA): As Iraq celebrates the 20th anniversary of the July 17 revolution on Sunday, it can look back with satisfaction on the fact that nearly 60 per cent of its territory has been seismologically surveyed as part of an oil prospecting plan.

Iraq, a founding member of OPEC, maintains oil co-operation links with nearly 50 countries, providing technical and consultancy services to many Arab states in their oil exploration efforts.

The country has succeeded in building a strong national oil industry which is self-sufficient in all sectors, including refining and marketing.

More than 50 new oilfields have been discovered over the

last two decades, while new oil exporting outlets have been found with the help of new pipelines across Turkey and Saudi Arabia to the Mediterranean and Red Sea ports.

The country's oil exports, hampered by the closure of its oil outlets on the Gulf because of the conflict and the Syrian decision in 1982 to close the Iraqi pipeline which ran across its territory, have found new outlets through two new pipelines.

One line is currently carrying 1.50 million BPD of crude across Turkey, while the second stage of a pipeline across Saudi Arabia is set for completion by September 1989. This will increase overall capacity to 1.65 million BPD. The first stage involving 500,000 BPD was commissioned in

October 1985.

Work is also under way on a second strategic pipeline linking Iraq's northern and southern oilfields. The line with a capacity of 900,000 BPD will be completed by 1991. The first line was commissioned in 1975.

The new project aims at providing Iraq with additional capacity to pump oil in both directions and also to feed its refineries and power generating stations.

Projects

The discovery of huge oilfields in the country with substantial and proven recoverable crude reserves has prompted Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Raheem Al Chabbi to describe Iraq as "a country floating on an oil lake." Iraq has set aside \$11.50

billion for development this year, with 42 per cent going to industry and agriculture.

Under the plan, 1,298 projects will be implemented, including 135 in agriculture, 207 in industry, 209 in transport and communications, 467 in construction and public services and 203 in education.

Since 1968, the year of the revolution, numerous development projects costing billions of dollars have been built throughout the country, including irrigation dams, reservoirs, transport and health facilities, oil and petrochemical plants, educational and scientific centres and industrial and agricultural schemes. Many of them are the most ambitious of their kind in the Middle East.

Despite wider May deficit

Improving US trade trend intact

WASHINGTON, July 16, (Reuters): The US trade deficit widened slightly in May after two months of substantial declines, but officials and most Wall Street economists said the improving trend remained intact.

The government said on Friday the trade gap, after eliminating seasonal variations, widened to \$10.93 billion in May from \$10.30 billion in April, as a 2.3 per cent increase in exports was outstripped by a 3.4 per cent rise in imports.

Gap

But, as White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater noted, the May deficit was "still about a billion dollar below the January-April average and represents good news in the continuing trend of reducing the international trade deficit."

If the pace of the first five months of the year were maintained, the gap for the whole of 1988 would be about \$140 billion,

down sharply from the 1987 record of 171.2 billion.

The wider deficit failed to derail the dollar, which soared in New York to an 11-month high of 1.88 West German marks and an eight-month peak of 135.50 Japanese yen on relief that the gap was slightly narrower than expected.

"Despite the Cassandra warnings predicting a dramatic increase in the merchandise trade deficit, the rise was minimal. The American export boom continued unabated," said William Arceby of the US Chamber of Commerce.

But some economists remained worried that, unless the economy cools, the improvement would start to fade.

"I continue to be encouraged by reasonably good levels of export growth," said Steve Roach, an economist with New York investment bank Morgan

Stanley and Co. Inc. "The dark side of the equation continues to be imports."

"In the current environment of firm domestic demand in the U.S., especially for capital goods, I think we will be hard pressed to maintain the deficit at its present reduced level," Roach said, predicting it may rise back into the \$11 to 12-billion range in the next few months.

Benefit

Exporters are reaping the benefit of the 50 per cent decline in the dollar between 1985 and 1987, which made American goods cheaper overseas.

But since January the dollar has risen 20 per cent against the mark and 12 per cent against the yen in response to rising US interest rates and the improving US trade balance.

The following are the seasonally adjusted monthly figures on the US merchandise trade deficit. The merchandise trade count

excludes earnings from such non-merchandise items as banking and insurance (figures are in billions of dollars).

	1988	1987	1986	1985
Jan.	11.27	14.73	13.40	10.29
Feb.	14.41	13.53	11.27	11.43
March	11.70	13.82	12.71	11.05
April	10.30	13.24	13.11	11.35
May	10.93	14.07	11.99	12.67
June	15.06	11.53	13.42	
July	13.85	12.81	10.51	
Aug.	15.08	13.56	9.90	
Sept.	13.94	14.65	15.55	
Oct.	15.56	12.71	11.45	
Nov.	13.62	14.66	13.68	
Dec.	13.80	12.74	17.37	

Total (rounded)...155.14...148.49

Total recently revised to \$133.65 billion to take into account more accurate US-Canada trade figures. But the revision does not show up in the monthly figures, so 1985 figures are not comparable to 1986 monthly figures — a record high.

US drought could affect economic growth

WASHINGTON, July 16, (Reuters): A devastating drought could slow US economic growth slightly this year as farm production falls, food prices rise and transportation costs soar, a report on Friday by President Reagan's drought task force said.

In its second interim report on the impact of the unrelenting drought, the interagency task force said economic growth in America could be slowed by 0.2 percentage points.

The estimate, however, did not represent an official revision of the government's forecast of three per cent growth in the 1988 GNP, said an official with the White House council of economic advisors.

"We're not changing our (GNP) estimate. It stands," the official said.

Drought

The drought has already cut the US grain crop by 24 per cent, and the soybean crop by 13 per cent compared to last year. "These losses are large and irreversible at this point," the report said.

Recent light rains have not provided significant relief to crops being baked by record high temperatures, and the drought has worsened in the eastern corn belt and the southeast just as crops enter a critical growth stage.

However, the report said, total grain supplies are sufficient to meet US and foreign demand, although prices will be higher.

Exports of US grains in 1988/89 are projected to fall by 10 per cent from the previous season to 87.0 million tonnes. The report said US officials have assured foreign customers that trade will not be cut off because of the drought.

Manila expands food production

AGRICULTURAL production in the Philippines will expand, farmers' incomes will increase and the country will progress toward food self-sufficiency because of a nationwide irrigation project. The World Bank is supporting the project with a \$45 million loan.

The \$60.2 million project will improve operations and maintenance of the country's national irrigation system (NIS) and is expected to directly benefit about 430,000 farm families, or 2.6 million people, according to World Bank News.

World Business Summary

UAE banker calls for more bank mergers

ABU DHABI, July 16, (KUNA): A leading UAE banking official has called for more bank mergers, stating that the banks which had already merged were able to expand their operations and earned more profits. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Sultan Al Dhahiri, deputy governor of the UAE Central Bank, said in an interview with Al Ittihad and Emirates News that the success achieved by the merged banks should encourage other banks to follow their steps for the benefit of the banks, the shareholders and the banking sector in general. Sheikh Mohammed said the performance of most of the local and foreign banks operating in the country was better last year than in the previous year. He added that in 1986 several banks had raised their provisions for bad debts in response to calls by the Central Bank and as part of efforts to support and strengthen the banking sector. He added that the banks which had responded to the call were keen to improve their economic standing, although this process had affected their profits in 1986, when the annual figure of some of them showed net losses. Sheikh Mohammed said most of these banks now have adequate provisions to cover bad debts, while other banks which had not completed the process of making provision faced losses in 1987.

Sheikh Mohammed said however, that almost all banks now have enough reserves to cover bad debts, and have strong balance sheets, and that the situation of banking sector in general is good. He added that the world stock market crash had only a limited effect on banks operating in the UAE, because their portfolios are divided between local investments, loans and foreign investments.

Saudis reaffirm denial of oil output increase

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, July 16, (AP): Saudi Arabia issued its second denial in as many days on Thursday over oil market talk that the kingdom intends to boost production to meet the bill for a recently signed multi-billion-dollar arms deal with Britain. The kingdom, in a statement distributed by the official Saudi Press Agency, charged that it was the victim of an "artificial information campaign" by oil brokers and their agents in the market. "The kingdom strongly denies the truth of such charges and wishes to reaffirm its full commitment to its assigned level of production by OPEC," the statement said. "We find that certain circles are still insisting on charging the kingdom with the fall in oil prices as a result of the British arms deal," said the statement attributed to an unidentified "responsible source."

On Wednesday, Oil Minister Hisham Nazer issued a statement denying talk that the kingdom would raise its oil production to cover the cost of the deal for UK-made Tornado jet fighters, other military equipment and construction projects reportedly worth at least \$17 billion. A "memorandum of understanding" on the Saudi-UK arms deal was signed on July 3 and reports stated that Saudi Arabia intended to pay for the arms with oil. Rumours of Saudi over-production were fuelled by Saudi Arabia's apparent partial settlement of an earlier arms deal with Britain through oil barter.

Nazer stressed his country's commitment to its Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries daily quota of 4.343 million barrels and called on the other member states to respect their assigned production levels. He also urged oil producers outside the organisation to curtail their output in the interest of restoring stability to the world oil market. Concerns over OPEC production levels and the Saudi-UK arms deal were cited by dealers.

IFAD loan to help rural credit scheme in Tonga

ROME, July 16, (OPECNA): The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) will help a rural credit scheme in the South Pacific island kingdom of Tonga with a loan of \$2.30 million under an agreement signed here on Wednesday. The scheme was launched in 1984 with co-financing from IFAD, World Bank, and similar assistance from the Asian Development Bank. The expansion is aimed at extending a credit scheme initiated by the Tonga Development Bank. The bank intends to make the financial viability of the enterprise its basic lending criterion, rather than the collateral offered.

The poorer section of the population, including small landless farmers, young peasants with limited assets, fishermen and women's groups will also benefit from the project.

The bank will also offer credits to small holders of crops such as yam, taro, vegetable and water melon, while sub-loans are to be made available for fishermen to purchase equipment, motor and vessels.

Group sub-loans are also to be extended to women's group for agricultural and handicraft activities.

American oil imports continue to rise

NEW YORK, July 16, (OPECNA): US oil imports continued to rise in the first six months of 1988, with foreign shipments accounting for 41 per cent of consumption, the American Petroleum Institute (API) said on Wednesday. The institute said imports for the first half of last year accounted for 37 per cent of demand. The increase this year was attributed to greater consumption coupled with lower domestic production. The institute said overall consumption rose by 2.5 per cent, slightly higher than the increase in the previous six months and more than twice the expected growth.

At the same time, with global prices far lower than they were two years ago, domestic consumption fell 2.3 per cent.

Edward Murphy, API director of finance, accounting and statistics, said the rise in oil imports might also have been caused by inventory build-ups because of a fear of higher prices.

US dependence on oil imports was the highest in 1977 at 47 per cent and the lowest in 1982 and 1983 at around 31 per cent.

World Bank is planning to boost Third World loans

NEW YORK, July 16, (UPI): The World Bank is planning to increase its loans to developing countries by an annual 10 per cent, to more than \$20 billion a year by the early 1990s, the UN agency said on Thursday. "Fiscal year 1988 was an excellent year for the World Bank," Ernest Stern, senior vice-president for finance, said in a press conference at the Vista International Hotel on Thursday. Stern said that during the fiscal year that ended June 30, the bank received approval for a capital increase, which raised its total authorised capital to \$171.4 billion, with \$1 billion in net income. The capital increase also reflected an increasingly cost-effective and growing access to the international markets. "These results," he said, "provided a very strong basis for the planned expansion by 10 per cent per year of the bank's lending to developing countries to over \$20 billion a year by the early 1990s."

New loan commitments by the bank in fiscal year 1988 totalled \$14.8 billion, compared with \$14.2 billion last year. Disbursements to developing nations reached a record level of \$11.6 billion, up \$250 million from 1987.

The World Bank cashed service payments on its loans of \$15 billion, repayments of principal were \$8.2 billion, and interest payments and commitment fees were \$6.8 billion. The difference between bank disbursements and service payments to the bank is accounted for to a very large extent by repayments from "countries that no longer borrow from the bank, such as Japan, and got loans with 15-20 years repayment terms," a bank source explained.

Oil prices firm slightly

LONDON, July 16, (Reuters): Crude oil prices were firmer on world spot markets on Friday, but business remained choppy and the tone was mixed and nervous, traders said.

Prices rose around 20 cents per barrel late in US trade on Thursday, and the gains were extended in Europe on Friday, before sentiment weakened towards the close.

The gains were prompted by technical buying, and a background of confused market fundamentals.

Gains

Traders said that US operators, notably the "Wall Street refiners" — big financial institutions which have become increasingly involved in oil trading in recent years — have been selling contracts on the gasoline futures markets and balancing positions by buying on the crude oil futures markets.

This led on Thursday to short-term gains on the crude contract on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the main US oil futures exchange, and other prices on the world spot oil market.

ets were dragged up as well. However, the week ended as it had begun on a weak note with early technical gains evaporating.

Prices fell sharply early in the week as traders became increasingly concerned about high levels of crude arriving on the market. But by Friday, traders had decided that the supply/demand picture was becoming increasingly confused.

Extra crude from the Middle East has been coming to north-western Europe to cover a shortfall caused by the Piper Alpha platform disaster in the North Sea. The platform explosion a week ago led to the closure of the entire flotta system, which accounts for an estimated 12 per cent of UK North Sea output.

Among these grades not regularly offered in Europe are Kuwaiti and Dubai crudes, which are competing with supplies from Saudi Arabia and Iran. But market opinions differed as to whether this would fill the gap left by the Piper Alpha blast or put further pressure on spot prices.

Kuwait trade volume dips

Price indices show more stability

ALSHALL Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on July 13, an average of 39.53 points with an increase of 0.39 point over last week's average. The index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 48.11 points with an increase of 0.20 point for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 54.22 million shares at a daily average of 10.84 million shares with a decrease of 36 per cent from the previous week's daily average of 16.93 million shares. Gulf traded shares reached 20.10 million shares at a daily average of 4.02 million shares with a decrease of 17 per cent from last week's daily average of 4.83 million shares.

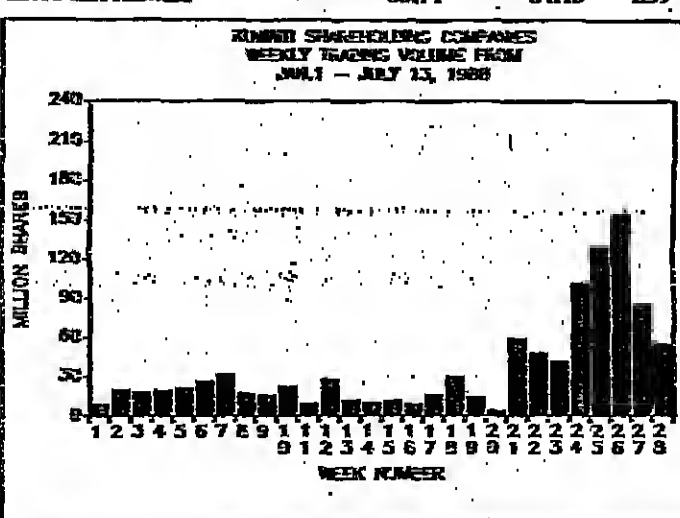
The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD15.323 million at a daily average of KD3.065, a decrease of 14 per cent from last week's daily average of KD3.571 million. The value of Gulf traded shares was KD1.848 million at a daily average of KD0.370 million, a decrease of 15 per cent from last week's daily average of KD0.435 million.

The performance of the market was weak in general, with obvious weakness in trading volumes and values while price indices showed more stability.

On a series of continuous decisions to allow banks to repurchase 10 per cent of their shares, Al Ahli Bank was permitted to do this week which created some anticipation that more banks and companies are going to follow suit. As a result the banking sector had the lead with higher total traded shares at 66 per cent compared with last week's average of 41 per cent, of which Burgan Bank had 22.7 per cent. The Commercial Bank had 21.2 per cent and Al Ahli Bank 20.8 per cent. The services sector, in spite of a sharp decline, came second at 17 per cent of total trading volume — 38.7 per cent for the previous week — of which Kuwait Commercial Markets Co. had the lead at 83 per cent, followed by Mobile Telephone Systems at 13 per cent and Public Warehousing Co. at 3.5 per cent. The investment sector came third at 10 per cent of total trading volume, with Investment Pearl of Kuwait in the lead at 37 per cent, followed by Kuwait International Investment Company at 30 per cent and National Investments Company at 21 per cent. (This company was recently listed on the exchange and is not represented in the index). As for the Gulf Shares Market, The Financial Sector led at 99 per cent of total traded volume of which Coast Investment and Development Company had the largest share at 83 per cent, followed by Bahrain International Bank at 11 per cent, and Arabian General Investment (SHUAA) at 5 per cent.

Kuwait shareholding companies index

	Wednesday 13/07/88	Wednesday 06/07/88	Change points
Banking Sector			
Kuwait National Bank	89.28	90.29	-1.01
The Gulf Bank	32.73	31.07	1.66
The Commercial Bank	24.82	23.95	0.87
Al Ahli Bank	35.56	32.20	3.36
Kuwait & M. East	34.33	33.77	-0.44
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	34.13	33.73	0.40
Burgan Bank	28.24	27.25	0.99
Kuwait Finance House	68.79	67.27	1.51
Services Sector			
Investment Sector	43.59	42.71	0.79
Kuwait Investment Co.	32.32	33.06	-0.73
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	29.21	29.21	—
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	85.71	84.13	1.59

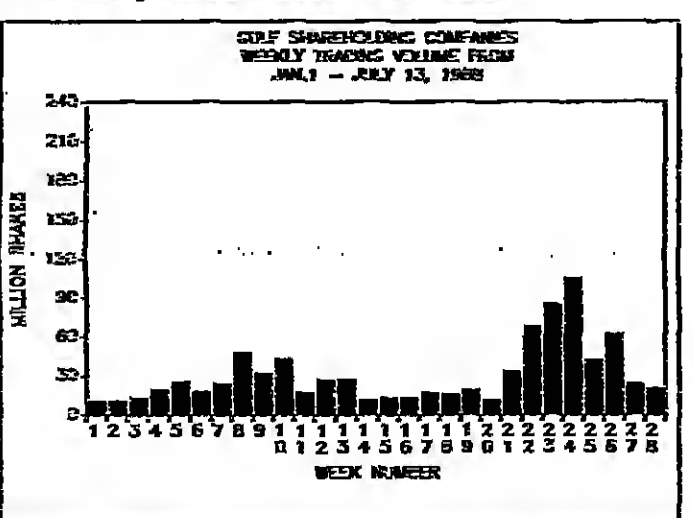


IFA	73.53	75.00	-1.47
Commercial Facilities	116.25	116.25	—
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	36.97	36.97	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	26.15	26.92	-0.77
Al Ahli Insurance Co.	47.74	47.74	—
Warba Insurance Co.	74.74	76.46	-1.72
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	28.55	28.55	—
United Realty	12.06	12.06	—
National Real Estate	41.01	41.41	-0.40
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	16.36	16.36	—
Refrigeration Indust.	88.94	83.65	5.30
Gulf Cables	104.90	106.96	-2.06
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	84.44	88.00	-3.65
Other Companies			
Kuwait Computer Co.	198.72	194.40	4.32
Kuwait Cinema Co.	9.04	9.04	—
Public Warehousing Co.	87.88	86.87	1.01
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	39.95	40.95	-1.00
Mobile Telephone Syst.	376.19	371.43	4.76
Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	45.16	45.57	-0.41
United Fisheries	10.91	11.05	-0.14
Kuwait United Poultry	83.61	83.61	—
Kuwait Food Co.	70.11	67.82	2.30
Overall Index	41.84	41.84	—
Overall Index	39.53	38.14	0.39

Gulf shareholding companies index

	Wednesday 13/07/88	Wednesday 06/07/88	Change points
Financial Companies			
First Gulf Bank	163.16	163.16	—
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	—
Bahrain International Bank	92.41	93.79	-1.38
Bahrain M. East Bank	81.63	81.63	—
Gulf Investments Co.	61.03	61.03	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	97.14	93.33	3.81
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro.	61.85	61.85	—
Arabian Gen. Inv. (SHUAA)	53.79	53.03	0.76
Other Companies			
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	13.68	13.68	—
Shaykh Cement	10.50	10.50	—
Finjan Cement	9.21	9.21	—
Ras Al Khaima W. Cement	25.00	25.00	—
Gulf Medical Projects	29.80	29.80	—
Overall Index	48.11	47.96	0.20

Provided by Alshall Economic Consultants



Fresh public borrowing instruments planned

THE Governor of the Central Bank, Sheikh Salem Aziz Al Sabah said yesterday that the Central Bank of Kuwait is planning to issue fresh public borrowing instruments designed to strengthen the national economy.

This decision follows the run-away success witnessed by the KD1.4 billion public borrowing instruments the bank floated this year in the form of treasury bills and bonds the official said and added that "there are some financial instruments which indeed could be introduced to the local money market."

Al Sabah said "local commercial banks will avoid adverse conflicts provided they base their foreign operations on well defined banking principles without excessive speculation" and called on local banks to carry out comprehensive studies on their return from overseas operations.

The governor, however, rejected the idea of local banks being permitted to buy 10 per cent of their shares against issuing bonds to the public. He said investors should deposit the equivalent of their shares in cash and obtain interest in accordance with market rates.

Al Sabah stressed that the major part of the loans crisis had been solved through the loans settlement scheme. Additionally, joint regulations governing all banks to follow financial positions of the dealers are under process, the governor said.

The Central Bank has signalled its approval for Kuwait International Investment Company to buy KD1.5 million worth of company shares at current market price.

Announcing the CRK green-light for the share acquisition, Al Sabah said consent for the deal is valid for six months with effect from yesterday.

Bank profit surges

RIYADH, July 16, (Reuters): Al Bank Al Saudi Al Fanni said its net profit for the first half of 1988 had risen 13 per cent to 46.2 million Saudi riyals (\$12 million).

The Jeddah-based bank, owned 40 per cent by Bank Indosuez and 60 per cent by Saudi shareholders, had reported a net profit of 40.7 million riyals (\$11 million) for the same period a year earlier.

Its net profit for the whole of 1987 was 64.4 million riyals (\$17 million).

The bank is the fourth of Saudi Arabia's 11 commercial banks so far to report a higher net profit for the first half of 1988. Other banks have yet to report.

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	0.880	0.880	0.880	0.880	565000	16
GULF BANK	0.390	0.395	0.395	0.390	1300000	45
COMMERCIAL BK	0.285	0.285	0.290	0.285	1490000	66
ABLI BANK	0.375	0.370	0.375	0.370	1090000	42
B.K.M.E.	0.375	0.380	0.380	0.380	210000	7
K.R.E.B.	0.410	0.430	0.430	0.430	20000	1
BURGAN BANK	0.285	0.290	0.290	0.285	2620000	84
K.F. HOUSE	0.450	0.455	0.455	0.450	850000	21
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KUT INV. CO.	0.176	0.176	0.176	0.176	80000	2
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	—	—	—	—	—
K.I.I.C.	0.170	0.170	0.172	0.170	160000	6
CON.FACILITIES						
ARJAL INV.	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
I.F.A.	0.102	0.100	0.100	0.100	40000	1
INV. PEARL KUT	0.106	0.108	0.108	0.108	740000	15
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KUT INSURANCE	0.680	—	—	—	—	—
GULF INSURANCE	0.350	0.340	0.340	0.340	10000	1
ARJAL INS. CO.	0.540	—	—	—	—	—
WARBA INS. CO.	0.435	—	—	—	—	—
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KUT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.228	0.228	0.228	0.228	250000	3
KUT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.108	120000	2
KUT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.206	—	—	—	—	—
SALUBAN R.E.	0.080	—	—	—	—	—
KUT PRODUCTS	0.088	0.087	0.088	0.087	280000	3
KUT R.E.I.COM	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
KUT IND. CO.	0.500	—	—	—	—	—
KUT K.P. IND.	0.290	—	—	—	—	—
KUT CEMENT CO.	0.240	—	—	—	—	—
REF. IND. CO.	0.405	—	—	—	—	—
KUT IND. CO.	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
KUT CABLE	1.040	1.020	1.020	1.020	36220	2
K.P.F. IND. CO.	0.190	—	—	—	—	—
CONF. MARINE	0.350	—	—	—	—	—
K.S. REF. CO.	0.042	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERSEAS TRANS.	0.079	—	—	—	—	—
K.N.C. CO.	0.190	—	—	—	—	—
KUT HOTELS CO.	0.170	—	—	—	—	—
P. JARHUSING	0.170	0.174	0.174	0.172	240000	9
CONF. COM. CO.	0.020	—	—	—	—	—
MOBILE TELE.	0.400	0.395	0.400	0.395	310000	14
KUT COMPUTER	0.182	0.184	0.184	0.184	20000	1
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.222	—	—	—	—	—
UNIT FISHERIES	0.154	—	—	—	—	—
UNIT FOODS	0.210	0.305	0.305	0.305	80000	4
AGRI. FOOD PROD.	0.150	—	—	—	—	—
NON-KUT SECTOR						
B.M. INTER. BK	0.068	0.067	0.068	0.067	1520000	4
B.M. N.EAST. BK	0.043	—	—	—	—	—
UNIT. GULF BK	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
COAST INVEST.	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.102	200000	25
A.G. INV. CORP	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.035	320000	1
FIRST GULF BK	0.020	—	—	—	—	—
B.K.I.C.	0.080	—	—	—	—	—

KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE

COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
FINANCIAL SECTOR						
FINANCIAL SECTOR	0.095	—	—	—	—	—
GULF INV. CO.	0.041	—	—	—	—	—
GULF INT. INS.	0.009	—	—	—	—	—
ARAB INT. CO.	0.055	—	—	—	—	—
SHARJAH INS.	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
GULF UNION INS.	0.070	—	—	—	—	—
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
S-GULF MEDICAL	0.020	—	—	—	—	—
C.R.K. WHITE OINT	0.022	—	—	—	—	—
D-ALUMIN CEMENT	0.007	—	—	—	—	—
E-FUSILAR CEMENT	0.007	—	—	—	—	—
F-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	—	—	—	—	—
G-GULF CEMENT	0.016	—	—	—	—	—
H-UNION CEMENT	0.020	—	—	—	—	—

Farm subsidy proposals get mixed reception

GENEVA, July 16, (Reuters): Delegates at world trade talks gave a mixed reception on Thursday to new proposals by 14 farm exporting nations aimed at trying to end a deadlock on phasing out agricultural subsidies.

The United States and the European Economic Community asked that the 14-nation Cairns Group, which includes Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada and New Zealand, be more specific.

Japan and Switzerland had some criticisms of the new ideas, presented on Wednesday in the Uruguay round of free trade talks being held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The Cairns Group called for ending agricultural subsidies by the year 2000, starting with a freeze at end-1988. It also suggested cutting subsidies by 10 per cent in 1989 and in 1990.

A year ago President Reagan proposed eliminating all agricultural support by the end of the century, but the US plan did not include any short-term measures.

On the other hand, the 12-nation EEC has refused to abandon its export subsidies entirely and has proposed short-term measures in three sectors —

cereals, sugar and dairy products.

Daniel Amstutz, chief US farm negotiator, told Reuters: "We welcome their paper. It shows a lot of work."

But he added: "They offer no specifics for the long-term. They just say let's agree to negotiate. An agreement to negotiate in the long-term is what we have now — that's not enough."

Asked if the Cairns Group plan could be a bridge between opposing views held by the United States and European Economic Community, he said: "It can be no more than the beginning of a bridge."

The basic difference in the negotiations is that the United States stresses that all subsidies must be scrapped by the end of the century. The EEC calls that unrealistic.

Rolf Muhrer, EEC deputy director of agriculture, said the Cairns proposal to end all subsidies went beyond the language of a ministerial declaration which launched the Uruguay round in the Uruguay resort of Punta Del Este in 1986.

Japan called for a gradual process of transition to remove subsidies on access to markets. The next meeting of the agricultural negotiating group is expected in October.

Short-dated KD rates firm

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates firmed slightly in the spot rates yesterday as the dollar climbed to an 11-month high against the Kuwaiti currency.

But dealers said most banks were cautious, waiting to see how international markets open on Monday before building long dollar positions.

Dinar deposit rates generally firmed when the dollar does, as banks transfer funds into dollars from dinars. The dollar surged to an 11-month high against the West German mark on Friday after the United States reported a smaller-than-expected May trade deficit.

Firmer
The Kuwaiti dinar yesterday fell by almost two fils against the dollar from Thursday, with the Central Bank exchange rate easing to 0.28383/93 from 0.28211/21. Commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.28390/95. Gulf banks are closed on Fridays.

Overnight funds traded at between one and five per cent, but amounts at the high levels were small. Tomorrow next was put at three, two per cent and spot next at four, three per cent, about one point firmer than Thursday.

One-week dealt at five per cent from 4-5/8 per cent on Thursday. The fixed periods were unchanged with no deals reported at six, 5-3/4 per cent for the one-month, 6-1/8, 5-7/8 per cent for the two-month, 6-1/4, six per cent for the three-month and 6-3/8, 1/8 per cent for the six-month.

Meanwhile, rising US interest rates and higher demand for riyals pushed fixed-dated Saudi deposit rates to their highest levels since October, dealers said.

Banks were reported seeking riyal funds for settlement on Monday for last Saturday's third 1.5 billion riyal offering of Saudi government development bonds.

The Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) has not been depositing funds raised from the second bond issue back into the banking system, dealers said.

THE GULF BANK

Exchange Service	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.28312	0.28460
S. Fr.	0.47026	0.43085
F. Fr.	0.18172	0.12830
It. Lira	0.004459	0.004880
Yap Yen	0.002039	0.002535
Bp. dinar	0.0020886	0.0020150
UAE Dir.	0.75098	0.75522
S. riyal	0.07707	0.07751
Qat. riyal	0.07547	0.07589
Om. riyal	0.07774	0.07824
Yarkouk Insurance	0.73518	0.73962

AMMAN

AMMAN		OPING	CLSG
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY		1.20	1.19
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.		1.63	1.61
ARAB BANK		112.5	111.
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER		3.96	3.93
ARAB FINANCE CORP.		1.35	1.33
ARAB INSURANCE		0.99	0.99
ARAB INT. INV./TRAD.		0.98	0.98
ARAB INT. UNION INS		0.94	0.90
ARAB INTER. HOTELS		0.53	0.53
ARAB JOR/INTV/JRK		2.10	2.10
ARAB PAPER COM/TRA		0.31	0.31
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.		1.94	1.94
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN		0.76	0.77
ARAB POTASH CO.		1.94	1.94
ARABIAN SEAS INS.		1.65	1.61
BANK OF JORDAN		15.20	15.15
BANKING INSURANCE		1.00	0.99
CAIRO ARABIAN BANK		28.50	28.50
DAR AL SHAB PRESS		0.46	0.46
DAR ALDANA DV/INTV.		1.55	1.54
DARCO/INVEST/BOUS.		0.52	0.53
FINANCE/CREDIT/JOR		0.60	0.53
GARAGE OWNERS OFJ		3.65	3.65
GENERAL INSURANCE		2.39	2.40
GENERAL INVESTMENT		1.25	1.24
GENERAL MINING.		1.31	1.33
GOWEN MINERALS		0.75	0.77
HAIFI LAKE INS.		1.26	1.26
HAFSAH/INTV. JOR		1.56	1.56
INDUST. DEVLPT BSK		1.56	1.57
INDUST./COMM/INV.		1.31	1.31
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.		0.75	0.77
INTERN. CON/INTV.		0.21	0.21
ISRID ELECTRICITY		0.85	0.86
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE		0.64	0.64
ITERMED/PETR/CHEN		1.19	1.19
J. TOUR-S/ COMPLEX		0.79	0.83
JERUSALEM INS.		1.26	1.24
JO TABACCO/CIGARET		14.35	14.50
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR		1.20	1.20
JOR EAGLE INS.		25.01	25.01
JOR ELECTRIC POWER		1.53	1.53
JOR FINANCE HOUSE		0.94	0.99
JOR GLASS INDUSTRIES		0.98	0.99
JOR MOUNT TOURISM		2.50	2.33
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.		1.59	1.52
JOR INS AND FWH.		1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.		0.61	0.61
JOR LITH BRICK		0.22	0.22
JOR MOUNT CONSUL.		0.59	0.59
JOR NATIONAL BANK		5.53	5.53
JOR PAPER CARDBOARD		3.12	3.12
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS		2.52	2.52
JOR PIPES MANUFACT		1.21	1.21
JOR PRESS/PUBLISHER		2.00	2.01
JOR PRINTING/PACK.		4.00	4.00
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.		0.60	0.60
JOR SECURITY CORP.		0.77	0.77
JOR SELFO CO.		2.56	2.57
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY		1.12	1.09
JOR MOUNT AGR		4.55	4.55
JOR. KIMMATT RLR		1.00	1.00
JOR. PETROLEUM REF.		7.35	7.35
JOR-FRENCH INS.		5.20	5.20
JOR. INV. FIRM CORP.		2.00	2.00
JORDAN GULF REAL		0.33	0.33
JORDAN DAIRY		0.99	0.99
JORDAN GULF BANK		1.25	1.25
JORDAN GULF INS.		0.94	0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE		13.85	13.93
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK		1.77	1.75
JORDAN KIMATT BANK		1.44	1.43
JORDAN TANNING		2.01	2.01
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY		0.70	0.70
MACHS/EST/RENT/MAIN		0.79	0.76
MACHS/ENTRIES		0.69	0.73
MACHS/REST. HOTEL		0.60	0.60
MIDDEL EAST TRD.		60.00	60.00
MINERALS RESEARCH		0.60	0.53
NAT. FIRM. INVEST CO		1.80	1.80
NAT. WAT./CASEL/INTV/JR		1.00	0.99
NATIONAL ABILA INS.		1.30	1.30
NATIONAL INDUSTRY		0.39	0.38
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO		0.72	0.71
NATIONAL STEEL		2.63	2.60
NOBRIENT DRY BATTERY		0.25	0.28
PETRA BANK		1.93	1.92
PETRA JOR. INS.		0.35	0.35
PHILADELPHIA INS.		0.82	0.82
RAFIA INDUSTRIAL		0.80	0.80
REAL ESTATE INV.		0.48	0.48
SHIPPING LINES		0.87	0.87
SPIRITING WEVING		0.76	0.76
THE HOUSING BANK		1.83	1.83
UNITED INSURANCE		0.96	0.95
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND		1.50	1.49
UNIVERSAL INS.		1.19	1.23
WADDEEN INDUSTRIES		0.70	0.71
WADJOUK INSURANCE		1.10	1.10

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SALMIYA, behind the Fire Brigade. Furnished 2-bedroom CAC apartment to share with a bachelor. Tele. Hameed, 2468844, 9 am-9 pm.

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HAWALLI, accommodation with tele. facility for a small family or working lady to share with an Indian family. Bus routes 502, 102, 38, 16, 15. Tele. 2621983, 7 am-12 pm, 2-9 pm.

(AT6-43192-3)

Wanted

ANYWHERE in Kuwait. Furnished accommodation required for an Indian couple between August 10-15 to the end of August. Owner possibly on vacation. Tele. Sajjan, 4874259, 4813141.

(AT6-43193-3)

SALWA or Mishrif. One or two family villas required for a British family. Tele. Robert, 4743155.

(AT1-43211-3)

For Rent

SALWA, Area 11, Flat: 3 bedrooms, dining and sitting room, 2 bathrooms and kitchen. CAC. Tele. 2631290, 2640263.

(AT6-43187-3)

JULEEB Al Shiyokh Flat, 2 bedrooms, large saloon with tele. line. Rent KD 115. Tele. 4344290.

(AT6-43195-3)

SABAHIYA, Block 2, House 44, Street 13. Floor of villa deluxe, CAC, suitable for a big family or 2 small families. Rent KD350 with water and electricity. Tele. Abu Youssef, 5382975/4 Abu Ahmed, 3817095.

(AT2-43221-6)

SALMIYA, flat, one bedroom, hall and saloon. Rent KD 135 with water. Tele. 2465965, 11 am-1 pm and 7-9 pm.

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JOHNSON 175, 23ft. imported from USA, fully equipped with a refrigerator and trailer, galvanized control. Tele. 2631280, 2640263.

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Cars

MERCEDES 250C coupe 1970, collectors car, in excellent condition. Reasonable price. Tele. 3985948.

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DATSUN box 1983, brown, manual with AC, electric windows, power steering, central locking and well-maintained in top condition. KD 1200. Tele. 5656739.

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CHEVROLET Impala 83-84 model, one owner. KD1000, ono. Cash. Tele. 4817200, 4817333.

(AT2-43216-2)

MITSUBISHI Lancer F 1983, automatic, insured up to May 1989, white, with AC, in good condition. KD 550. Tele. 5385094.

(AT6-43202-3)

SAAB 900 Turbo, 1982 model, white, fully automatic, insured up to May 1989, in good condition. KD 150 for owner. KD 57 x 9 instalments to the dealer. Tele. 5385094.

(AT6-43201-3)

MITSUBISHI Lancer, 1986, navy blue colour with AC, manual 39,000 km, in excellent condition. KD1,000 ono. Tele. Nasir Hassan, 2412309, 2424220, 8 am-12:30 pm, 4-7:30 pm.

(AT2-43235-2)

HONDA Accord, 1982 model, automatic, 2 doors, stereo, HiFi, registered up to 17.4.89, with AC, in very good condition. KD 700. Tele. 5635917, res.

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Three apartments, each consists of two bedrooms, a living room, a hall, and two bathrooms. Deluxe and central A/C.
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(AT2-43210-3)

BUICK LeSabre 1978, automatic, registered up to April 1989, in good condition. KD300 cash. Tele. Tariq, 3295445 ext 1696, 7 am-1 pm, 5747283, 3-10 pm.

(AT1-43184-2)

HONDA Prelude 1984, sky blue, automatic with AC, registered up to July 1989, maintained by the agent, in excellent condition. KD1600 ono. Tele. Sunil or Zachariah, 4815080, 4810832, 4815318, 8:30 am-4:30 pm.

(AT2-43230-3)

COLT GLX 1983, automatic with AC, white, registered up to 1989. KD400, cash. Tele. Mr Ray, 5385498, after 10 am.

(AT2-43220-2)

SAAB 900 GLE, 1982 fully automatic, with AC and new tyres, power controls, in excellent condition, mauve colour, lady-driven, registered up to April, 1989. KD1195. Tele. Carl, 3720195, after 4 pm.

(AT2-43228-3)

Computers

AMEGA 1000, Commodore with software. 1. Kaleidoscope (art of electronics). 2. Basic/tutor. Tele. 4847671, 4845029.

(AT6-43194-3)

IBM compatible PC-XT 640 KB memory 2x360K floppy, hard disk 20MB, colour monitor, keyboard, some software packages, in perfect condition. Tele. 5641927, 7-7:30 am, 9-11 pm.

(AT2-43224-3)

Furniture

FURNITURE for one bedroom apartment. Please contact Tele. 2424370, 2-4 pm, after 6:30 pm.

(AT2-43222-3)

Miscellaneous

FRIGIDAIRE 14cf, KD 60, Beckerman cabinet units and bunk beds. Tele. 4817200, 4817333.

(AT2-43216-2)

CONTENTS of 2 bedroom apartment, bedroom and living room furniture including baby cot, kitchen utensils, carpets, tumble dryer and many other items. Tele. 3722472, 3721468 ext 285, 8:30 am-9 pm.

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10 HP Honda outboard 4-stroke marine engine KD200, Snipe trailer KD70, Raleigh professional racing bicycle, KD90. All are new. Must sell within 3 days. Tele. Samir, 4840848, mornings, 4840120 afternoon.

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Mishrif - 4 bedrooms with basement, KD600, Mishrif - 4 bedrooms with carpet, KD400, Mishrif - 3 bedrooms with carpet, KD600, Bayan - 4 bedrooms, KD700, Sarra - 3 bedrooms, KD500
Deluxe villa with swimming pool, KD1100 plus many villas and flats in all areas.
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(AT1-43199-3)

SERVICES

Tuition

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(AT2-MC-TM-3)

REQUIRED from Hawalli to Salwa, 7.45 am and return 1.15 pm. Must be reliable and air-conditioned transport. Tele. 4813566 ext 289, 4-8 pm.

(AT1-43205-2)

AVAILABLE from Salamiya to Kuwait City and back between 3 pm and 4 pm. Tele. Majid, 5623982, any time.

(AT1-43209-2)

REQUIRED from Pak-Sarhad Hotel to Shuwaikh, Canada Dry Street. Office timing: 8 am - 12 noon, 4 - 7 pm. Tele. 4841439, 4832474.

(AT1-43209-2)

REQUIRED for a lady from Kuwait City to Canada Dry Street. Timings: 8 am - 1:30 pm only. Tele. 2445611, res. 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm.

(AT1-43215-2)

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REQUIRED for a lady from Hotel Continental to Hawalli. Office hours 8 am - 12:30 pm, 4 - 7:30 pm. Tele. Rashida, 2450655 ext. 301 during office hours.

(AT1-43204-2)

REQUIRED from Benid Al Qar to Shuwaikh near 7-UP, 8 am-1 pm and 4 - 7 pm. Tele. 4848601 ext 161.

(AT2-43219-2)

COOK and driver required for a Kuwaiti family to live-in in Adaliya. Must be experienced. Tele. 2425968, 2414203, 9 am-12 noon, 5-8 pm.

(AT1-43203-2)

Wanted

MAID, Indian highly recommended (currently with a British family) hardworking, efficient, excellent with children. Har qualities require a good salary. Transferable residence. Tele. 5339121, 6-8 pm.

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AUSTRALIA SET TO FACE BRAZIL IN GOLD CUP FINAL

Argentina overcome Saudi Arabia

CANBERRA, Australia, July 16, (AP): World Cup holder Argentina scrambled to a 2-0 win over Saudi Arabia today in a biennial Gold Cup soccer tournament, playoff for third place.

The Argentine team salvaged some self-respect after losing 4-1 to Australia on Thursday night, but gave another ill-disciplined display.

Diego Simeone gave the South Americans the lead with a well-placed header after only four minutes and Oscar Dertycia made it 2-0 in the 30th minute.

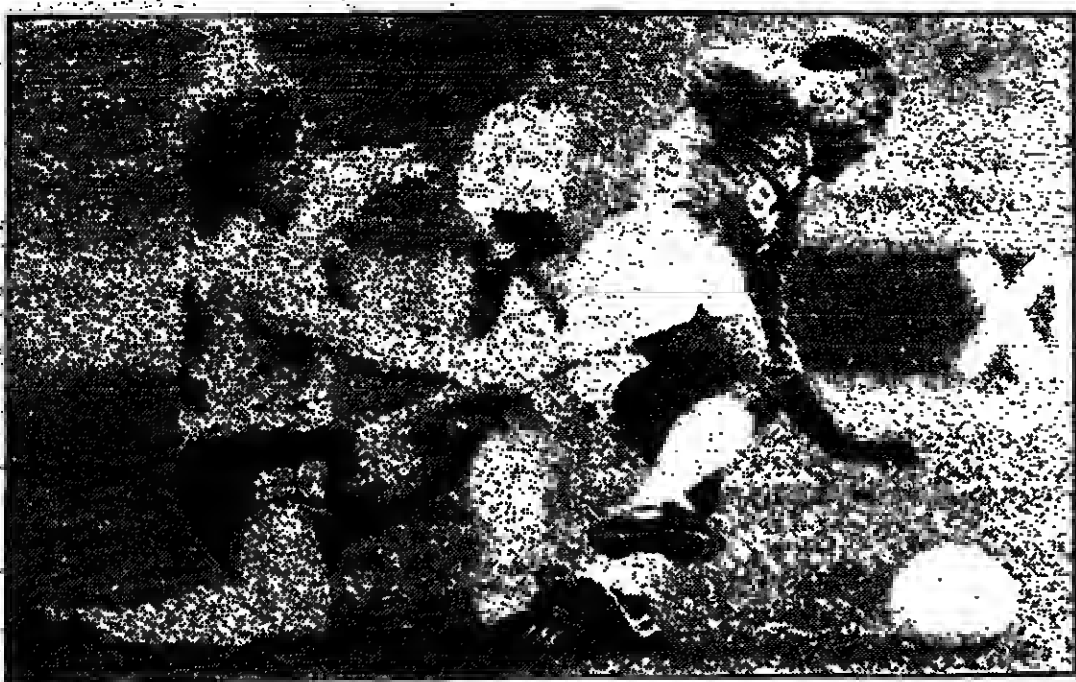
Saudi Arabia played with 10 men for the final 55 minutes after goalkeeper Salem Marwan was sent off for punching Argentine sweeper Mario Lucca.

Argentina, however, was unable to take advantage, playing negative, uninspired soccer in a match punctuated by a number of wild tackles.

The victory was Argentina's first in four matches in the tournament, which is being played to celebrate the 200th anniversary of European settlement of Australia.

Australia faces three-time World Cup winner Brazil in the final at the Sydney Football Stadium tomorrow.

Argentina earlier had drawn 2-2 with Saudi Arabia in a round-robin play, drawn 0-0 with Brazil and then lost 4-1 to Australia — their worst defeat for 30 years.



Argentina's Nestor Lorenzo (left) tackles Saudi Arabia's Bander Surour. (Reuter wirephoto)

Coach Carlos Bilardo went into the tournament hampered by the enforced absence of stars like Diego Maradona and Jorge Burruchaga.

Argentina took the lead when Diaz floated a deep corner to the far post, where Simeone rose high to head the ball down past Marwan.

They made it 2-0 when Claudio Cabrera passed to Hernan Diaz, whose shot was

parried by Marwan to Dertycia, who rammed it back past the goalkeeper.

Referee Gary Power of Australia had to hand out eight cautions during the game.

Australia's victory over Argentina on Thursday was the best in their soccer history and the Aussies believe they can reverse a 1-0 loss against Brazil earlier in the four-nation championship.

Australian coach Frank Arok delayed naming his team today hoping midfielder star Oscar Crino, who missed the win over Argentina, would recover from a shin injury.

"I joined the training session today and did everything. The injured leg, which had protective padding, felt fine," said Argentine-born Crino.

Arok said central defender Robbie Dunn had recovered

from a shin injury he suffered against Argentina on Thursday night and was certain to start the match.

Brazil has team problems with Muller and Geovani nursing injuries and Ademir having to sit out the match because of a suspension. He is expected to be replaced by Andrade.

Arok said he had great respect for the Brazilians, who have won two and drawn one of their three matches to date.

"They are now much closer to being a well-drilled side, fluent, reasonably young and more imaginative than the other sides," Arok said.

Euphoria

Striker Graham Arnold said today that the Australians had calmed down after the euphoria of the victory over Argentina.

"We played Brazil once and should have won, but we're not over-confident about the final. How can we be against that team?" he said.

"But we're in an unbelievable situation, something we never expected and we have the confidence we can do better."

Brazil coach Carlos Alberto Silva took his team for a light training session today and warned them they face a battle in the final.

"Australia is strong and physical and have shown now that they also have skills," he said.



Ground keepers try to squeeze water into the cup on the 11th green. (Reuter wirephoto)

Rain hits British Open

LYTHAM, England, July 16, (AP): Heavy rain flooded at least three greens and forced postponement of the third round of the British Open today.

Officials said the entire third and fourth rounds would be played tomorrow, weather and course conditions permitting. Scores shot early today were thrown out.

The last time the Open finished with a 36-hole final day was in 1961, when the tournament ended on Saturday.

Scheduled

Since the Open went to a Sunday finish in 1980, it never has had more than the scheduled 18 holes played the final day. And, in its first 116 editions, golf's oldest tournament never has finished on a Monday.

Half the field of 71 golfers was on the course when rains, which started just after dawn, picked up.

A downpour about 21-2 hours after the first starters, Payne Stewart and Gordon Brand Jr., teed off flooded greens at the ninth, 10th, 11th and 12th holes, and play was suspended at 11:20 GMT.

Officials waited an hour and

25 minutes before announcing that play had been washed out.

Nick Price, a native of South Africa who now lives in the United States, held the 36-hole lead at 137, 5-under par and one in front of Seve Ballesteros of Spain at 138.

Defending champion Nick Faldo of England and American Craig Stadler followed at 140. American Andy Bean was at 141.

Sandy Lyle and Americans Fred Couples and Bob Tway were tied at 142.

The odds on Ballesteros winning his third Open championship shortened considerably before the third round began. Britain's legal bookmakers made the Spaniard a 2-to-1 favorite, with Faldo second at 4-1. 1985 champ Sandy Lyle of Scotland 7-1 and Price 8-1.

Stadler was next 11-1, with Bean and Couples next at 14-1 and Bob Tway 20-1.

All were even par or better. But the wind was the dominant player over the first two days.

For the second day in a row, winds off the Irish sea blew scores sky high yesterday as the field was cut to 71 golfers for the final two rounds.

McCallister shares lead

COAL VALLEY, Ill., July 16, (Reuter): Blaine McCallister shrugged off intense heat to fire a 62 for a 36-hole 130 to tie fellow-Americans Russ Cochran and Dan Forsman for the second-round lead at the \$600,000 Oakwood Classic golf tournament yesterday.

Following the three leaders at one-shot back is Sam Randolph, who shot a 67 on Friday for a 36-hole total of 131. In back of Randolph at 132 are Jeff Sluman, Ernie Gonzalez, Dan Phil, Mark Maness and Ron Streck.

Sinking

Thursday's first round leader Gene Sauer jumped 11 strokes from his opening round record 62, sinking to 31st place.

McCallister used 10 birdies and two bogies for an eight-under total for the day, which saw temperatures soar to more than 88 degrees Celsius.

"I shot," McCallister said. "I thought Atlanta was hot last month, but they have nothing on

Coal Valley. As long as you pace yourself, drink plenty of fluids and try to find occasional shade, you're alright."

McCallister started on the back-nine for the second round and scored four birdies and one bogie on his opening nine. He bogied the first hole, his 10th, when he three-putted the par-4, but went on to birdie holes two through four, and six of his final eight.

"I started birdie-birdie (10th, 11th), and that put me in a good frame of mind," McCallister said. "The two bogies I had, I followed up with birdies. I worked all day on having a good swing, and then following it up with another good swing. I had my opportunities today, and I took advantage of them."

Cochran, one of only two left-handers on the PGA tour, teed for the second round of the day with a six-under 64. He played dogleg golf all day, scoring six birdies on the par-70 course.

Bradley, a struggling through the worst season of his career, ended Atlanta's four-game losing streak on one swing — launching Randy Myers' 10th-inning fastball into the left-field seats for his 15th homer leading off the bottom of the 10th.

Dodgers 3, Cubs 2

Tracy Woodson, hitless in nine at-bats since being recalled from the minors last week, had a pinch-hit RBI single in the 10th to give the Dodgers their third win in two days at Wrigley Field. Alcindo Pena, 4-3, pitched two scoreless innings for the victory.

Astros 5, Phillies 2

Philadelphia starter Kevin Gross made only one mistake in seven innings, but Houston's Glenn Davis made him pay for it. Gross, 8-6, allowed four hits in seven innings, but Jim Deshaies, 6-6, gave up just three before Danny Darwin pitched two hitless innings for his first save.

Reds 6, Expos 3

Eric Davis' three-run homer off Jeff Parrett lifted Cincinnati over Montreal and ended the Expos' eight-game winning streak. Jose Rijo, 10-4, allowed three hits in seven innings to reach double figures in victories for the first time in his career.

Results

American League

(1st) Boston 3 Kansas City 1
(2nd) Boston 7 Kansas City 4
New York 5 Chicago 3
Minnesota 4 Baltimore 2
Milwaukee 4 Texas 2
Seattle 8 Cleveland 5
California 6 Detroit 4
Toronto 1 Oakland 0

National League

(10th) Los Angeles 3 Chicago 2
Cincinnati 6 Montreal 2
Houston 5 Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 8 San Francisco 5
(10th) Atlanta 4 New York 3
San Diego 7 St. Louis 3

Wallabies let world champions off the hook

All Blacks force thrilling 19-19 draw

BRISBANE, July 16, (Reuter): New Zealand, 10 points down at halftime, recovered to salvage a 19-19 draw against a rejuvenated Australia in the second rugby union Test today.

New Zealand looked anything but world champions in the first 40 minutes in the face of a Wallaby whirlwind which resulted in tries for winger Ian Williams and centre James Grant.

But the All Blacks, trailing 6-16 at halftime, came to life after the interval. A stream of first class possession launched wave after wave of black jerseys against the Australian defence, and it eventually cracked.

Winger Terry Wright scored a simple try after 10 minutes of All Black pressure finally yielded a huge overlap, and Grant Fox's conversion made the score 16-12.

Fox took his Test points tally to 196 and his side to within one point of the Wallabies with a 55th-minute penalty. But full-back Andrew Leeds, who had an inspirational game, replied with

another penalty to put Australia 19-15 ahead.

Amid unbelievable tension the All Blacks, yet to lose since winning the World Cup last year, threw everything they had at the home side.

John Kirwan left David Campese for dead on the right wing but was hauled into touch by his collar inches from the line by a stretching Steve Cutler.

The New Zealand attack could not be denied, however. Five minutes from time Kirwan cut back inside on the 25-metre line and scythed through to score his 21st international try.

"Fox, the best placekicker in world rugby, took an age over the conversion. But his attempt went wide and Australia's bravery was rewarded with only the fifth draws in 85 games between the two countries.

Australia, who let in three tries in the first 11 minutes of the Test, started nervously but once Fox missed an early penalty they took control.

The return of flanker Jeff Miller added zest to their scrum and for the first time on tour the All Blacks were outplayed in the scrums and mauls.

Leeds, who was faultless under a hail of Fox high kicks, put his side 3-0 up before captain Nick Farr-Jones engineered a slick try.

Number eight Tim Gavin fed Farr-Jones from a scrum 10 metres out. The scrumhalf went wide before feeding inside to winger Ian Williams who ran through untouched to score.

New Zealand replied with a try when Fox was hauled down a few metres short after a five-metre scrum and flanker Michael Jones dived over. Fox converted.

An injury to Wallaby inside centre Michael Cook forced a reshuffle with Stephen James coming on at flyhalf and debutant flyhalf Lloyd Walker moving to inside centre.

But the home three-quarters retained their sharpness and they became the first side to score two tries against New Zealand in two years when Grant accelerated

past Joe Stanley to score.

Leeds converted and added another penalty right on halftime after the All Blacks, showing an uncharacteristic lack of control, argued with referee Brian Anderson from Scotland.

New Zealand lead the three-match series 1-0. The final Test is in Sydney on July 30.

Australia: Andrew Leeds; Ian Williams, James Grant, Michael Cook (replaced by Stephen James), David Campese; Lloyd Walker, Nick Farr-Jones (captain); Tim Gavin, Simu Poidvin, Steve Cutler, Damien Frawley, Jeff Miller, and Andy McIntyre, Tow Lawton, Mark Harrell (Rob Lawton).

New Zealand: John Gallagher, John Kirwan, Joe Stanley, John Schuster, Terry Wright; Grant Fox, Bruce Deans; Wayne Sheldford (captain), Alan Whetton, Gary Whetton, Murray Pierce, Michael Jones, Richard Lee, Sean Fitzpatrick, Steven McDowall.

Walker widens gap at top

DANVERS, Mass., July 16, (Reuter): First-round leader American Colleen Walker extended her lead to five shots after shooting a three-under par 69 mid-way through the \$300,000 Boston Classic golf tournament yesterday.

Walker is at nine-under par. Six players are tied for second place, including Jan Stephenson of Australia and Americans Becky Pearson, Kathryn Young, Cathy Marino, Beisy King and Cindy Rarick.

Walker started out fast making birdies on three of her first four holes. She birdied the second from 10 feet, the third from 12 feet and the fourth also from 10 feet.

noticed signs that Herrera, the 1987 Tour of Spain champion, was weakening less than two kms from the summit.

At the instant, Herrera refreshed himself with a bottle of water, the Spaniard attacked and the Colombian was left stranded, completely unable to respond.

Delgado finished second to Stephen Roche of Ireland in last year's tour after taking the yellow jersey in the Alps.

But the injured Roche is not there this time and Delgado's preparation has been much better this year.

He ducked the Tour of Spain, a race he won in 1985, for the first time so that he could enter the Giro d'Italia purely as a warm-up for the Tour de France he so badly wanted to capture.

Helped

He was a useful seventh in Italy but, more importantly, found it helped him to find the right sort of form to tackle the biggest of the three major tours.

"A lot of people at home didn't understand why I missed the Tour of Spain," he said. "But Bernard Hinault and Greg Lemond successfully used the Giro to prepare for the Tour de France so I thought it couldn't be a bad idea to try it too."

Tyson has no agreement on Bruno fight

NEW YORK, July 16, (AP): Mike Tyson and Bill Cayton have not come to an agreement that will permit the scheduled Sept. 3 fight with Frank Bruno to go forward, lawyers for both parties said yesterday.

Michael Winston, Tyson's attorney, said that the heavyweight champion had not definitively agreed to go ahead with the fight but only to have negotiations proceed for the scheduled title defence in London.

"There has not been a definite decision by Mike Tyson," Winston said. "Things are still in negotiations."

Ahead

A day earlier, Winston seemed to indicate the fight was on, saying the decision to go ahead had been recommended to Tyson by his new advisors, whom he would not name.

"We're still negotiating but we recommend that the fight go ahead," Winston said.

Cayton, who has a managerial contract with Tyson that the champion is trying to break, said Thursday the fight was definitely on but Howard Rubenstein, a Tyson spokesman, said yesterday that Tyson's advisors and Cayton were still in negotiations over the Bruno fight.

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Morgan rides high on debut as manager

NEW YORK, July 16, (AP): Roger Clemens made sure Joe Morgan will remember his debut as Boston Red Sox manager.

So did the rest of the Red Sox, who swept Kansas City 3-1 and 7-4 last night, making Morgan 2-0 since taking over Thursday from the fired John McNamara.

"Everybody wants to win for the man because nothing is definite," Mike Greenwell said. "We've got to go out and play for him. It seems like we have a good atmosphere around here now. We just have to keep it."

With Clemens pitching the way he did last night, the Sox will have no trouble being happy campers.

Clemens pitched a five-hitter and struck out 16 Royals for the second time this season in the opener. He lowered his earned run average to 2.29 and completely dominated the Royals.

Wade Boggs and Rick Cerone homered in the second game for Boston, which had lost eight of its last 12 games under McNamara.

"We're going to play a little different type of baseball," Greenwell promised. "We've got a lot of good hitters. We've just got to go out and make things happen. That's something we didn't do enough of in the first half."

Blue Jays 1, Athletics 0

At Oakland, Jummy Key got his fourth straight victory since coming off the disabled list and George Bell drove in the only run. Bell drove in the game's only run with a single in the third inning and he also threw out a runner at the plate.

Angels 6, Tigers 4

California built a 6-0 lead and held on. Jack Howell hit a three-run homer in the first inning for the Angels, whose four runs in that inning were their most in a first inning this year. Mike Witt, 7-9, went 7 1-3 innings, allowing eight hits. Brian Harvey finished for his 10th save.

Mariners 8, Indians 5

At Seattle, Dave Valdesparked a four-run seventh inning with a two-run double as the Mariners handed Cleveland its sixth straight loss. Brook Jacoby had capped a five-run sixth-inning with his second career Grand Slam to put the Indians ahead 5-2. Mike Schooler got his fifth save.

Twins 4, Orioles 2

At Baltimore, Garry Gaetti used his bat — hitting his 20th home run of the season, a two-run shot — and his glove — with two sparkling plays at third base. That helped Charlie Lea to his fifth victory in his last six starts.

Brewers 4, Orioles 2

At Arlington, Texas, Ted Higuera pitched a five-hitter before needing last-out relief from Dan Plesac and Paul Molitor had three hits in Milwaukee's fifth consecutive win. The Texas Rangers have lost four straight and have scored only six runs in the last 39 innings.

Braves 4, Mets 3

Dale Murphy, struggling through the worst season of his career, ended Atlanta's four-game losing streak on one swing — launching Randy Myers' 10th-inning fastball into the left-field seats for his 15th homer leading off the bottom of the 10th.

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Cincinnati 6 Montreal 2
Houston 5 Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 8 San Francisco 5
(10th) Atlanta 4 New York 3
San Diego 7 St. Louis 3

Creation

If the 10 rebel clubs — Liverpool, Everton, Manchester United, Tottenham, Arsenal, West Ham, Nottingham Forest, Aston Villa, Sheffield Wednesday and Newcastle — had signed the deal, it would have led almost certainly to the creation of a breakaway Super League.

The injunction lasts for only seven days until next Tuesday, but the League has decided to ask the rebel clubs to give an undertaking that they will not sign any separate deal before August 8.

At the general meeting next month the clubs will be asked to approve a new regulation requiring three years' notice from any club intending to leave the League or the payment of substantial damages.

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Mezey to manage Hungary again

BUDAPEST, July 16, (Reuter): Gyorgy Mezey, who resigned in disgrace after Hungary's 1986 World Cup failure, was appointed national soccer manager again yesterday.

Mezey, who succeeds Laszlo Balint who resigned on July 4, signed a six-year contract which will run until the end of the 1994 World Cup finals, the MTI news agency reported.

Mezey is the fifth man to be appointed to the post since the Mexico World Cup finals when Hungary suffered a string of bad results, the worst of which was a 6-0 whipping by the Soviet Union.

Mezey has been coaching Kuwait's national team since the Mexico World Cup.

\$700,000 contract

BUENOS AIRES, July 16, (Reuter): Argentine 1978 World Cup winning coach Cesar Menotti has signed a \$700,000 18-month contract with Argentine First Division club River Plate.

Delgado looks set to win Tour de France

BLAGNAC, France, July 16, (Reuter): The handful of riders with any hope of catching Tour de France leader Pedro Delgado spent today's rest day pondering just how they can stop the Spaniard when the race moves into the Pyrenees tomorrow.

The last two days in the French Alps have seen Delgado seize control of the 75th tour and the next two stages in the mountains he loves best should secure his race leader's yellow jersey until the finish in Paris on July 24.

Summed

Steven Rooks of the Netherlands, his closest rival at two minutes 47 seconds, summed up what most of the other riders are thinking: "In the Pyrenees, Delgado should be unbeatable."

"I don't think anyone has a real chance of stopping him. I'm not even concerning myself with the yellow jersey. I just want to become the first Dutchman to win the king of the mountains prize."

Rooks, winner of Thursday's tough 12th stage in the French Alps when Delgado's attacks devastated most of the rest of the field, currently wears the top climber's red polka-dot jersey and has a great chance of achieving that aim, at least.



Riders tackle the Alps climb where Delgado took control of the race. (Reuter wirephoto)

Short of illness, injury or a fall, Delgado is only likely to fail if the Colombian climbers Fabio Parra and Luis Herrera can destroy him in his own mountain stronghold.

"The Colombians are still dangerous but it remains to be seen which of us will best recover from our efforts in the Alps," Delgado said.

Parra needs to gain almost five minutes on the Spaniard and Herrera more than six and they only have two mountain stages in which to do it.

Tomorrow's 163-km 14th stage from Blagnac to Guzet-Neige does not look too promising for them so the real tester will be Monday's 187.5-km haul

